

The North-China Herald

AND SUPREME COURT AND CONSULAR GAZETTE

THE WEEKLY EDITION OF THE NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS

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VOL. CXXXVII. No. 2784.

SHANGHAI, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1920.

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The North-China Herald

AND SUPREME COURT AND CONSULAR GAZETTE

VOL. CXXXVII. No. 2784.

SHANGHAI, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1920.

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Enclosed with this issue:

"Municipal Gazette."

"Telegraphic Supplement."

"Weekly Share Supplement."

IMPARTIAL NOT NEUTRAL.

THE UP-COUNTRY FOREIGNER'S PERIL

Dec. 11.

The following article is by a foreigner residing in Central China who speaks with good knowledge of the conditions he describes. It should be read in conjunction with our Wuchang correspondent's further account to-day of the inflammatory state of the unpaid soldiery. Mr. Rodney Gilbert's report to-day of affairs in Peking and the Government's inability to get loans also bears closely on the whole question.

The subject which to-day is exercising the minds of many foreigners in China is the question of protection during time of trouble. This is especially the case with those who live in more or less isolated localities out of the reach of gunboats, and it is needless to point out that many such men, especially those whose wives and children are with them, are filled with anxiety as to what the immediate future may bring forth in the shape of outbreaks of the soldiers or the depredations of bandits.

Probably at no time since foreigners came to this country has the Peking Government been able to exercise so little authority over the various provinces, and the same time the provincial authorities are apparently unable to grant anything like a reasonable measure of protection to foreigners who live in the area over which they exercise jurisdiction. We say apparently, because it has often been found that it is the policy of the local mandarins to shirk their responsibility in this matter and to leave those whom by treaty they are bound to protect to shift for themselves in periods of danger. Still it must be admitted that things have come to such a pass in this

country that there are cases when local officials are absolutely helpless in the matter of assisting foreigners in times of peril.

It is only facing facts when we state that there are hundreds perhaps thousands, of Europeans and Americans, men and women, living up country who are in great danger. They are daily living under great nervous strain, never knowing from day to day when some outbreak or upheaval may occur and when they may have to flee for their lives. Though they carry on their work courageously, nevertheless it is evident they cannot concentrate their full powers on their allotted tasks. There is at the back of their minds this feeling of insecurity and of anxiety.

As there is no immediate likelihood of conditions improving in the slightest, but rather that they must inevitably grow steadily worse, the question arises "What is to be done for the protection of these people?" There are three methods open. The first is for the Ministers and Consuls to state frankly that they are unable to guarantee the safety of their nationals outside the treaty ports and order them to take refuge in the concessions. This may appear an ignominious way out of the difficulty, but better to adopt it than have a continuance of the outrages and murders that have had to be recorded during these last few months.

The second is for the representatives of the foreign Powers to secure adequate punishment of the responsible officials in those parts where such regrettable incidents occur. It is no use merely demanding the payment of compensation. But here we should frequently be faced by the difficulty of determining who are the men to be held responsible. The very slack hold Peking has upon so many parts of the country make the carrying out of such a policy almost impossible.

The third method would be to go to the fountain head of all the trouble and demand the bringing to justice of the militarists and

office seekers in the capital, who by their plots, quarrels and intrigues have been and are the real cause of all the troubles in this distracted country. It is no use beheading a few soldiers who loot because their pay is in arrears when the man who pockets the dollars is allowed to go free. The last method is the only logical and effective way of dealing with the situation, but whether it can be adopted and how it can be managed we leave it to the exalted ones in the Legation area in Peking and in the government offices at Home to decide.

THE IRISH AMERICAN

Dec. 13.

IRELAND may be the Achilles heel of the British Empire but is also a disturbing force in American politics. The Irish in America are a solid phalanx; they keep step in their political ranks and whether in civic, state or federal affairs they cast an undivided vote. They are said to constitute one tenth of the population of the United States and because of the perfection of their political organization and their unquestioning obedience to the orders of the central directorate they exercise a greater influence in the state in proportion to their numbers than any other section of the American people. The influence of the Irish vote on Anglo-American relations is too patent to need recapitulation and in the present deplorable condition of Ireland it militates powerfully against that cordial relation between America and Great Britain which the majority of thinkers on both sides of the Atlantic agree is the surest guarantee of world peace.

Many Americans regard the domination of the Irish in American politics with unconcealed vexation. They believe that if Britain were to settle the Irish question satisfactorily the Irish element in their midst would cease from troubling and their elections would henceforth

be fought on purely American issues. They would no longer have their attention diverted during the absorbing interest of a presidential election to perplexing questions of foreign politics which concern them only in a very remote degree. But this is by no means certain. The Irish in the States have become accustomed to a controlling position in American politics and it is unlikely that they will abdicate that position no matter what turn affairs in Ireland may take. They are a kind of *imperium in imperio* and the position is too fascinating to be lightly abandoned. Sinn Fein means "ourselves alone." It is the motto of men who place self first and its practical working is seen in the operations of Tammany Hall and the, practically, Irish police force of New York in the old bad days.

One may take leave to doubt that there are as many as ten millions of Irish in America. If there are the ratio in proportion to the entire population is almost the same as in Britain. An unassimilated foreign section in the country, whether it be Irish, German or Japanese, is sure to be as irritating as the grain of sand in an oyster shell, quite irrespective of the state of the political barometer at home or abroad. There are many more descendants of English, Scottish and Welsh settlers in the United States than there are Irish and it may be asked why these exercise no perceptible influence in politics and form no counterweight to the Irish vote. The answer is that these Anglo-Saxons have been absorbed into the Commonwealth whereas the Irish have not. Descendants of British parents in the States retain a certain affection for the land of their ancestors but they are Americans first and British in inverse proportion to the length of time they have been domiciled in the country. The Irish remain Irish first. They are not American-Irish but Irish-American and the interests of the land of their adoption are always secondary to those of the Irish in America and even to those of the Irish in Ireland. Nationalism is a good thing and patriotism a virtue to be admired. The man who does not love his native land will not be a good citizen of any other. No patriot is intolerant of another man's patriotism; he recognizes

in the other man's love of his Fatherland that touch of nature that makes the whole world kin. But when nationalism becomes a megalomania it is that corruption of the best which becomes the worst and leads by a swift descent from *Deutschland über alles* to the hymn of hate and the madness that cries havoc and lets slip the dogs of war. Britons all earnestly desire an honourable solution of the Irish question and it is noteworthy that even the series of dastardly crimes perpetrated in Ireland in the name of liberty has not in any measure alienated this feeling of goodwill to the country and to the people as a whole. It is not beyond the bounds of possibility that when our Irish question has been solved our American friends may be pricking their fingers with the solution of an Irish problem of their own.

THE TRAMS

Dec. 14.

THERE was a time when the Municipal Council took the position that it paid no attention to anonymous letters in the newspapers. This attitude — never very defensible in that criticism is worth considering on its merits wherever it comes from — has latterly, we believe, been modified; and, therefore, we are the more urgent in pressing upon the Council's attention the admirable letter we publish to-day on a very well worn topic. It would be absurd and unjust to say that other writers have not at times made good suggestions. But they themselves will admit, we think, that between their letters and "Transport's" there is all the difference between the amateur and the professional.

Some of his suggestions may appear impracticable in Shanghai inasmuch as they involve much greater ability to enforce rules upon the unruly than it would be fair to expect of conductors here. On the other hand, "Transport" is clearly on the side of those who believe that the service might be made more efficient, and he indicates various seemingly quite attainable ways in which such efficiency might be gained. Pointedly, however, he adds that he is "speaking of service not of finance."

The implied contest between the two is our reason for invoking the Council's aid, in the direction, suggested a week or two

ago, of a Commission to investigate the whole question of the tram service and to decide what improvements, if any, could reasonably be required. In every busy town in the world there are rush hours, overcrowding, delays and bitterness; and between the Company's and the public's points of view no reconciliation is possible without some outside arbiter. The business of transporting Shanghai's population grows more and more arduous every year and while the width of our streets does not expand, it is the more important to ascertain that the best possible use is made of them.

THE NEW SHIPS

D. C. 14.

CHANGES in the arrangements for driving ships through the water are not apparent to passengers, but they very much affect the comfort of these who travel at sea. A new stage of ocean travel commenced in the Far East with the arrival of the two Empress vessels, which are equipped with steam turbines and which travel very much faster than their predecessors. It is true that we are, in this part of the world, still a long way behind in the comforts of ocean travelling from those passengers who cross the Atlantic. But we live in hopes. The feature of the present century, so far as shipping is concerned, will be development of the Pacific routes and the increase in size of the Pacific ports. The new ships come out here from Europe and America, and some of them we notice while others complete a maiden voyage without any remark. A number of ships are now built in Japan, many of them with the latest equipment in their engine-rooms; others slide into the water from the yards in Shanghai or Hongkong. That is a comparatively new triumph of the shipyards in China, but it means a great deal. Before the war only ship-repairing was done in those yards; now ships are built and practically all of the propelling machinery is constructed with Chinese labour.

The latest news from Hongkong is that a new turbine-building shop is being built at the Taikoo Dockyard. No one will fail to see that is a most significant step and it merits commendation. The steam turbine is an invention of the last twenty-five years, but it has proved itself to be a most efficient machine. It is of

some interest to note that the ancient Egyptians, more than two thousand years ago, used the force of steam to operate a small wheel—it would be called a turbine in these days, although a very inefficient one. The wheel in its turn was attached to the temple doors and at the required signal the dignified Egyptian priest performed a miracle. No one was near the temple doors, but he pressed a lever hidden under the altar, with his foot, and opened a steam valve that was situated under the floor. Thus was steam admitted to Hero's elementary turbine and the doors swung open as a sign from the Gods! For centuries that idea was forgotten or buried. Painfully the knowledge of the capabilities and force of steam was built up. About a century ago the phenomena of land and ocean locomotion by means of steam were being discussed but none of those early pioneers thought of the present day machinery. For nearly a century the reciprocating steam engine, working on practically the same old principles, but with certain mechanical developments and improvement in material, continued to be used. Then came the steam turbine, which is now so extensively fitted for passenger vessels and men-of-war. The engine-room of a ship fitted with steam turbines is a remarkable sight as compared with the ordinary engine-rooms in which are reciprocating engines. There are no moving masses of metal, none of the things that Kipling's McAndrew reminds us of. Everything in connexion with the steam turbine is boxed up; the engineers might wear kid gloves in those engine rooms.

Are we to see a transformation of the machinery of the China Coast ships during the next few years? It seems not unlikely since the arrangements for the construction of steam turbines at Hongkong are probably only a pioneer effort which other firms in China will copy. And shall we see any increase in the size of the new ships? We do not forget the harbour difficulties, but there is every reason to believe that experts will make improvements in the harbours, ports and docks of the China coast as at Singapore and Colombo. Passage through the Suez Canal may limit size in the vessels which come East from Europe; but the average passenger likes to travel on a big ship, and although at present his convenience appears to count

for little in the eyes of shipping companies sooner or later he will come into his own again. For that day the Hongkong builders' yards at least are preparing.

THE FOOLISH POLICY OF HUSH

Dec. 15.

It appears to be the policy of governments and their servants to keep the ordinary people in a state of ignorance as to many of their aims and acts. This method no doubt dates back from the times when the ruling power was in the hands of two or three men and the great mass of the people were uneducated—were, in fact, regarded as little better than slaves whose duty it was to obey without questioning the commands of those who felt that, by divine right they were the overlords of their less fortunate subjects. Those days are gone and the nations of the west are not now governed by a king and one or two powerful ministers but by parliaments. At least in theory this is so, but one questions whether the power of the permanent heads of government departments and that of their more immediate underlings is not greater than that of the elected representatives of the people. For the M.P. is here to-day and gone to-morrow but the civil servants, the permanent secretaries and others of that ilk remain until such times as a grateful country pensions them off, and it is these men who do more to shape a country's policy than the average voter is perhaps aware. The men in the highest posts of the civil service are as a rule not greatly in favour of taking the people into their confidence in regard to the workings of their departments. One cannot altogether blame them for this attitude. It is part of the very atmosphere of the civil service, but the fact remains that the idea of "trusting the people" is one that does not commend itself to these men, who seem to transmit their viewpoint on this matter to the cabinet ministers, who in their turn dictate this policy to their party in parliament. The result is that the country is at times kept in the dark on subjects of the highest importance.

Of course we realize that delicate situations arise in the matter of foreign relations that cannot without danger be made public, but there are numerous other instances within recent years of gov-

ernments having kept the people in the dark on matters about which they ought to have been informed. One need only look to the Great War to find plenty of such examples. Again and again the people were not enlightened as to the real state of affairs at the front. They were treated to dozens of optimistic forecasts when they ought to have been told what dangers really confronted the nation. The authorities should have known the national character better than that and to have realized that, had they enlightened the masses as to the real situation, they would have received a mandate to use every means at their disposal to bring about a successful issue. The result of the policy of "hush was, of course, what one would have expected—all sorts of absurd rumours got about and, even when the politicians spoke out plainly, their words were doubted. Again, not long ago, the Premier of Australia spoke of the existence of a world-wide conspiracy against the British Empire, but did not go into definite details. Other politicians at home have made similar vague statements but have not got down to bare facts. The result has been that all sorts of wild and absurd statements have been made in the press, statements which will neither bring comfort to the minds of the readers nor credit to the writers; but the fault lies with the politicians who persist in this absurd policy.

Let them tell the people where the danger lies, if danger there be. The "ordinary folk" in the Empire will see to it that the Empire continues, if they are only told where the seditious parties are to be found. What the electorate are beginning to get tired of and what is helping to bring the very name of politicians into disrepute is this constant holding back of facts and the carrying out of what may prove to be dangerous tactics in both domestic and international affairs without giving those whom the Government are supposed to represent any inkling of what is taking place. Let those in authority get rid of these mediæval ideas of how little the people ought to know and, when danger threatens or difficulties arise, tell them as far as possible exactly what is the situation. If, after that, the people are not willing to respond to the call of duty or sacrifice, the nation deserves to sink and no amount of political bluff or diplomatic "hush" can stop its downfall.

A FAMINE RELIEF LOAN

Dec. 16.

REUTER informs us that, last Monday, the British, American, French and Japanese Ministers in Peking

discussed the proposed famine relief loan of \$4,000,000, which four banks are willing to advance provided the Inspector General of Customs is authorized to collect the surtax offered as security. The Ministers decided to make inquiries among the diplomatic representatives to ascertain whether the other countries which agreed to the surtax will make any objection to this proposal.

Which surtax is meant of the many that have been heard of latterly, Reuter does not say. If it be the Customs surtax, we thought it was definitely understood that this would only be permitted by the Legations if the money all went to the Inspector-General. If there be any doubt on that score, the sooner it is removed the better. For the mere mention of the word surtax for famine purposes makes the whole Chinese and foreign business community restive. Some of the former are trying to organize a combined refusal to pay. Foreign merchants have not gone so far as that, but they are if possible more determined than the Chinese to get proper guarantees as to what becomes of the money. Such suspicions will not be lessened by the trivial amount of the proposed loan—four million dollars—compared with the enormous needs of the famine. It cannot be too strongly emphasized that any loan to Peking nowadays may have dangerous and far-reaching consequences throughout China. If then the loan is within the region of practical politics, it is the more important to urge that guarantees for its use, satisfactory to all classes and regions be required.

We believe the only solution and the only guarantee the Consortium could possibly accept is a Board for the administration of the Famine Loan composed of representatives from the leading Famine Relief Committees of Tientsin, Peking, Shanghai, Hankow, etc. A Board of this nature would take the responsibility off the Chinese Government's hand and place it where it ought to be, namely, with the men who have shown their sympathy with the Chinese people and have trans-

lated words into deeds; and at the same time such a Board would afford security that the loan would be entirely used in Famine Relief work. Without some such guarantee it is difficult to imagine the Consortium being satisfied. The Peking Famine Relief Committee, even with the changes that have recently taken place, is not in a position any more than is the Tientsin or Shanghai Committee separately to say how this loan should be disbursed, but a joint Board of the Famine Relief Committees would amply cover all interests. From reports to hand it is evident that the real effects of the famine are now being felt and people are actually dying from starvation or cold or both. The next few months is the crucial period for millions of sufferers and it behoves all concerned to take a sober view of things and act with a considered judgement. The sooner this representative Board is appointed the better.

We recognize that these stipulations are not calculated to increase the Chinese Government's eagerness to borrow. Apart from any other motive, they may say that it is beneath their dignity to allow it to be inferred, from the humiliating conditions which they are required to accept, that they or their subordinates cannot be trusted with money designed for the starving and homeless. The answer is simply this: that such, whether the loan be arranged or not, is precisely what Chinese business-men do infer; and if Peking wishes to clear its reputation, there is but one course for it to take. If it be genuinely desirous of helping the famine districts, it will accept any conditions of distribution and do all in its power to facilitate the work of the joint Board suggested. It will have done more to restore public confidence than twenty reformation mandates and new parliaments can achieve.

THE STORMCLOUD OVER CHINA

Dec. 17.

"We cannot say we had no warning," wrote Sir Robert Hart in "These from the Land of Sinim." And as the Boxer Rebellion might have been, but was not, foreseen and guarded against, so we ask whether the Legations are preparing for the storm which

again threatens to burst over China. In asking that, we must add two words. First, if the storm breaks, we do not suggest that it will necessarily resemble that of the Boxer year in any respect. Secondly, it is quite possible that the gathering signs of trouble will dissolve, as has happened before, without explosion. In China more than most places it is the unexpected that happens, and there have been many cries of wolf with nothing to show for them. But with all due precaution against scaremongering, we cannot be blind to the portents of evil which seem to have accumulated in recent months with special rapidity: and we must not forget that the Boxer Rebellion was in origin anti-dynastic, taking the course it ultimately did through clever manipulation from above. Nobody expects to see the Legations enduring another siege. But many foreigners living in the interior are undoubtedly very nervous.

The most evident sign of trouble impending is, of course, the unpaid soldiers. A common estimate of the arrears of their wages is eight months; some are even said to have been thirteen without money. The outbreak of looting at Ichang and Kaoyang is fresh in every memory. At Hankow a similar disaster was only averted by the Chinese Chamber of Commerce paying up half a million dollars; but such relief is only temporary. At Paoingfu an outbreak is momentarily expected, although here it is said the soldiers declare they will go for the real culprit, Tsao Kun, and not hurt innocent citizens. On the other hand at Wuchang, although Tuchun Wang Chan-yuan is many months in arrears with the regimental pay and quite unable to say what has become of it, the troops were curiously ready to do his bidding in chasing out the new Civil Governor, Mr. Hsia. This fact appears to us to be specially worthy of notice. Last July, it may be remembered, Mr. Rodney Gilbert, travelling from Peking to Hunan to investigate the revolt against Chang Chin-yao, which subsequently developed into Wu Pei-fu's ill-starred move on Peking, reported the belief of many foreigners that, if the Anfu Club were overthrown, they would try to bring down everybody in their downfall by fomenting an anti-foreign rising. That forecast was not realized, perhaps because Anfu was not

really overthrown. To-day, however, the fortunes of all northern officials, irrespective of meaningless party names, are in peril, because there is no money to be got, because the Consortium is helping China not by lending money to her but by withholding it, and because the Legations refuse to be frightened into letting the Government have money by threats that dreadful things will happen if they do not. Supposing the Government resigned office in order, if the phrase may pass, to get away with the swag while there was yet time, and simultaneously the unpaid troops began to loot in several places at once—all very possible, even probable, contingencies—it is impossible to say where trouble might end.

In calling attention to the danger that appears so imminent we certainly have no idea of suggesting a loan to ward it off. Nothing could be more fatal for the repute and even the safety of foreigners. But we do urge that the Legations should prepare a line of action against the event of an upheaval. It is not improbable that the Japanese military party would suggest that they be commissioned to come in and keep order. If they do, and if the Powers acquiesce, any popular disturbance would at once assume an anti-foreign complexion. Even now in some places we are told that the feeling against Japan and the feeling against all foreigners is hardly distinguishable. Whatever course the Powers decide upon, there must be no idea of acquiescing in the Japanese military party acting as policeman. That is one of the principal reasons for looking ahead and making ready against the storm. For when it breaks, it will do so very suddenly; and there may be no one else so near as Japan, of which fact her militarists would be swift to make capital.

In conclusion, we are most reluctant to appear to raise scares which may never, and we sincerely trust will not, be justified. But there are factors making for trouble such as there have not been for twenty years. Never were treasuries so empty, never were officials in the main so selfish and never was popular discontent more manifest. The patience of people and soldiers is strained to breaking-point and no one can tell when it may give way or with what far-reaching and disastrous result.

NOTES & COMMENTS

London Hospital

In common, no doubt, with other residents we have received a letter from Viscount Knutsford, chairman of the London Hospital. "This grand old hospital, the largest in England," he writes, "is really in desperate straits. The one and only cure is to find new friends to come to the rescue." There follow some striking facts about the hospital, which contains 1,000 beds and serves the poorest part of London and the neighbouring counties seaward:—
Its income is only £35,000 a year.
Its expenditure exceeds £200,000 a year.
It is in debt for the first time for years—to the extent of £75,000!

An average year shows
18,000 In-patients admitted,
450,000 Out-patient attendances,
4,000 Maternity cases visited in own homes,
19,000 Operations.

But Hospital service does not end with the actual treatment of its patients. It is a far bigger thing.

Every individual and every home owes the great teaching centres all that makes for health; without them there would be no knowledge, no doctors, no nurses!

These are bad days in which to ask for money and it is a sad fact that nearly every hospital in England is experiencing the same penury. But there must be enough London men in Shanghai to feel a practical interest in the London Hospital. What is wanted is those who will promise a regular annual or half-yearly subscription. We will gladly receive such and forward them, at the same time acknowledging in the paper.

A Lazy Game

One of the subjects discussed at the Church Congress at home recently was the brightening up of Sunday and the debate thereon might have passed unnoticed but for the unfortunate cleric who denounced cricket as "the laziest game on earth." If he succeeded in nothing else he roused a newspaper controversy. Of course cricket is a lazy game. The field stands round waiting for a chance to run after the ball, and save for the bowler, batsmen and wicket-keeper the players have more or less of an easy time—in the sense that they are not always on the run as in tennis or football. How exactly it should be enlivened to meet the clerical critic's point of view it is hard to say, though if the field were given skipping ropes to while away the hours it might make up in wasted energy what it at present loses in comparative inaction. But there are very few players who will agree with the dictum quoted above. There is plenty of hard work both in playing the game and practising for it, and if cricket is a lazy game, what about horse-riding? There the devotee sits down to it.

Nanking Conference

As China is to-day, it was a bold speech that Dr. F. C. Tong delivered on Thursday in Nanking at the Kiangsu Chambers of Commerce conference and Dr. Tong may be complimented not only on his frank speaking but also for the way in which he goes to the root of the matter. As he indirectly shows, there is no use in talking about the iniquity and illegality of any particular tax until the right of the people of China to say, through their elected representatives whether a tax shall or shall not be imposed has been secured. That sounds like asking for the moon. But a system of local self-government such as thinkers, generally, are more and more demanding would be a step in the right direction. The point in Dr. Tong's speech at which one has doubts is his proposal virtually to adjourn the conference to Shanghai. It may well be that the merchants would meet more safely there, could not meet safely anywhere else. But if they are not ready to risk something for China's sake, they cannot expect to do anything. No Government central or provincial will pay the slightest attention to beautiful opinions expressed in the security of Shanghai. The conference will be useless unless as a preliminary to concerted action throughout China. If that can be got, great results should accrue, for the Government would hardly dare to disregard the united action of all the guilds and chambers of commerce.

Malicious Propaganda

Propaganda! We loathe the word. It has been overdone, and clumsily at that, and this comment would not have been written but that it was thought interesting to show what sort of pabulum is served up to those who are held to constitute the thinking proportion of the working masses. Writing of the Government's Unemployment Insurance Act, which gives an unemployed man 15/- per week, a woman 12/-, boy 7/6 and a girl 6/- for a maximum period of 15 weeks in any one year, a Labour paper complains that while the maximum benefit a man can draw is £11.15.0 per annum, the government only pays 32/2 or one-seventh of the total. The man pays 4d. per week, the employer 8d., and the State 2d. in premium for the insurance, amounting to £3.0.8 per annum, but as the insurance is with itself, the Government in fact pays out £9.3.0 a sum somewhat in excess of the Labour paper's figures. It is difficult to say whether such statements are due to a malicious disregard for facts or an utter inability to appreciate them, but while such stuff is served up to that section of the public which allows the daily paper to think for it, no wonder can be felt at the unrest which exists.

Weibaiwei's Trade

Those who regard Weihaiwei as a very pleasant place in which to pass a summer's holiday, or see the fleet anchored there during the hot months of the year, would, probably, feel no little surprise to learn that the port does quite a fair trade having regard to its size. In 1919, according to the annual report presented to Parliament, the total trade represented no less than \$8,109,813, with imports rather more than twice as valuable as exports. The principal items in a list of commodities which range from bean-cake to sugar, are ground-nut kernels and salt, the export of the former exceeding \$1,500,000. Over 500 steamers with a total net tonnage of 487,526 and 41,535 junks visited the port during the year, though the report states that trade was affected adversely by the Japanese boycott which led to the cessation of exports to and imports from Japan. In particular cotton yarn fell from \$1,084,200 to \$603,850, but this was compensated by the import of raw cotton from China. The Territory is still dependent on a grant in aid from imperial funds but with the revenue, mounting as it seems likely to do the time may not be far distant when Weihaiwei will be self-supporting.

The Naval Controversy

The present naval controversy which is waging at home is not so bad a thing as would appear on the surface, for in the case of Great Britain, where the Empire's very existence depends upon the nature of her fleet, the questions that have now to be settled are of prime importance. Nor is the publicity which the controversy is receiving at all unfortunate: it serves to educate public opinion in such a manner that, probably, what the Lords of the Admiralty eventually decide will receive the support of many who have formed their own ideas. Of this we may be certain, the big battleship has not yet outlived its useful days. It is less invulnerable than it was; against it the submarine has many weighty drawbacks. But to describe them would be to enter on a controversy the outcome of which can only really be tested by war. Whatever the decision may be, we may be sure it will not be far wrong. It was not in the past, and recent experiences should be excellent guides for the future.

The "Tapper"

Whenever an addition is made to the list of queer trades there is some one or other in this wide world who will chuckle with delight and it is in the hope that the following will raise a smile that it is reproduced:—

A well-known West End dancing establishment employs several men whom the dances nickname "tappers." Their duty is to preserve propriety among the jazzing crowd. If a girl is seen to lift her leg too high or her partner is spied squeezing her too tight, a gentle tap on

the shoulder is administered. The second and third taps are not so gentle, and if these have no effect the naughty couple must leave the floor.

This is a profession on which a deal of literature may be expected—text books for tappers. Such learned subjects as the permissible height of a kick or the horse-power of a squeeze and the methods of determining the same might very well fill reams of paper. But if the male half of the naughty couple should object to being tapped and in return taps the tapper on the top, does he commit an offence or is it wiped out by the previous assault of the "tapper"? If the profession should be seriously taken up there are localities where the adept would find it safer merely to tap and run.

The Gambling Craze

It is to be supposed that there will always be gambling, and that as old methods are done away with new ones will be found. And wherever some uncontrollable factor gives the necessary element of chance, human nature will doubtless try to make a little money on it. So it was that hardened sinners gambled as to whose lump of sugar would first be honoured with a visit from a fly, or whose rain-drop would reach the bottom of the window-pane first. It was the ardent motorist who invented the game of "motor poker" on the numbers of cars as they passed, and at home betting is connected with many singular events. It was a social worker at Merthyr Tydvil who reported the latest development of the habit and he states that the small boys who attend churches and chapels arrange sweeps on the number of the first hymn announced by the preacher. The irony of the report lies in the fact that the news is given in a home paper just below a report which ends "Young children are often better in association with other children at well-conducted schools," and nothing is better conducted than a church or chapel service.

The Miserable Hun

Nauen was very cautious when it began again sending out wireless messages, and not a few of them which appeared innocent were published—with labels, in case there was a sting somewhere. But it is growing bolder. Tuesday brought three beautiful items: the cereal crop will be one and a half millions less than the estimate; Berlin hotels will close their dining-rooms "until the Government relaxes its stringent food restrictions, which are declared impossible to carry out;" and lastly a quotation from a "*Vossische Zeitung*" article on the coming Reparations Conference in Brussels to the effect that under certain conditions (principally that the Allies shall do exactly what Germany desires) the German Government "can conscientiously promise that the smaller instalments

of the first years will be followed by larger instalments in the years to follow." That last sentence is really delightful. But the possibility that at the coming Brussels conference the Allies may at last decide what Germany has to pay is the key to all. Nauen's business is to create an impression of misery in Germany. Hence another message of an impassioned appeal for unity between Catholics and Protestants as the only alternative to "perishing in the most terrible misery." Meanwhile it will have been observed that not a penny of the money which Britain and France were weak enough to lend Germany in order to stimulate the coal output has gone to the miners. (Who really ever thought it would?) These manœuvres are very thin. Germany may be badly off but France and Belgium are far worse. That fact we hope the Brussels Conference will keep well in mind.

The Right of a Peeress

Because she does not consider the House of Lords an effete institution Viscountess Rhonnda has petitioned the King asking that a writ be issued summoning her to the Upper House. This, of course, follows her peerage in her own right. The right of a peeress to sit in the House of Lords is not a new question at all, for as far back as the 14th century the right was more or less recognized, though while not actually taking part in the deliberations, the peeresses could send their proxies to do so. The sending of the petition to the King is a matter of form: the question will be decided by the Committee of Privileges and, should she prove successful, a precedent will be created of which about a score of other peeresses may take advantage. What is even more interesting is Lady Rhonnda's estimate of the House she wishes to enter.

"I have been asked if I do not consider the House of Lords a rather effete institution, and to this I say emphatically 'No.' Indeed, in my opinion, it has, on more than one occasion recently, shown itself to be a far more statesmanlike body than the House of Commons."

The Committee of Privileges has only one course open to it now.

Chinese Carpet Trade

The manufacture and export of Chinese-made carpets have apparently not fallen upon the evil days which were anticipated in the early part of last year, for it is learned that \$1,000,000 worth of business was done with the United States in 1919. That the trade is in the hands of men anxious to meet the foreign demand for these goods is evidenced by the fact that the carpet makers are anxious to learn the colours, designs and sizes of carpets and rugs popular in the United States, and are now requesting to be supplied with designs. A study of the work turned out from native looms shows that there is no reason why the makers should not be able to

adopt many foreign styles. It might not be easy to obtain the colourings achieved abroad, on account of the great differences of procedure and the materials used, but as against this there are to be considered the excellent workmanship of a good Chinese carpet and the restraint in colour brought about by the dyes used. It is indeed gratifying to see those engaged in this industry setting themselves out to secure a firm hold on their foreign trade, and if the same could be said of other trades the commercial position of this country would be better than it is.

The Labour Autocrat

A Reuter letter from New York mentions that in order to combat the "building trust," a thing of monopoly and apparently corruption, the city of New York has rescinded contracts running into millions, and investigations by the authorities tend to show that the operations of the trust are nationwide. According to this letter the trust is no ordinary one, for it seems to be controlled by Robert P. Brindell, a man who eight years ago was one of the highest paid Labour leaders in the States. Today he apparently controls the price of building. Now, the interesting thing about Brindell is the theory that the Wall Street explosion of a few months back was animated not by anarchism but by hatred of him—on the part of workmen whom he was alleged to be driving at starvation wages. An investigation is in progress, and, should the theory be well founded, it may give a very severe shock to the rank and file of Labour as to the character of their demagogic leaders.

MR. C. J. Spiker, of the American Legation in Peking, is in Shanghai for a week's vacation. Mr. Spiker was formerly American Vice-Consul and Mixed Court Assessor here.

NONE of the members of the General Staff in Peking have been paid for 13 months, since November last year. It is feared all of them will resign.—They ought to. Any man who hangs on to a job for 13 months without pay is either a plutocrat or of unsound financial ability.

THE Central Government is in receipt of telegraphic request from the Chinese merchants in Russia to the effect that they desire that several members should be elected from amongst themselves so as to represent them in the New Parliament which it is the decision of the Central Government to elect. In accordance with the constitutional rights granted them by virtue of the election rules promulgated in the 1st year of the Republic, these Chinese merchants in Russia now claim their legal rights. Whether or not the Central Government can see its way to granting this wish remains to be seen.

CHINESE POLITICS

CHINESE BANKERS AND THE CONSORTIUM

Definition of Their Policy

Although no news has been disclosed regarding the Chinese bankers' attitude towards the New Consortium excepting the report of the Chinese National Banker's Convention, we learn that, should the terms not be agreeable to the Chinese Government, the Chinese bankers are prepared to form themselves into a group.

The exact terms of the New Consortium have not yet been transmitted to China, so that not very much was discussed about the Consortium at the Convention.

"We are not opposed to the New Consortium" said Mr. Y. M. Chien, manager of the Bank of Communications, when interviewed last Friday afternoon by a representative of this paper. "We want, first of all, to know what the terms of the New Consortium are. Should the terms not be agreeable to China, we are prepared to form a separate group of Chinese bankers. China, however, needs foreign capital for industrial and commercial enterprises. I am in favour of loans for this purpose, but personally I am opposed to any loans made for political purposes. Any loans made to the Chinese Government must be passed by a proper Parliament legally elected by the people."

Besides the other matters which were discussed the Convention submitted a petition to Peking strenuously opposing the attempt to introduce the stamp tax on cheques.

Chou Tze-chi and Consortium

Peking, Dec. 15.

Chou Tze-chi, the Minister of Finance, replying to the letter of protest from the local representative of the Consortium, merely expresses his satisfaction that the Consortium does not contemplate any financial monopoly, or the obtaining of the Land Tax as security for a future loan, and adds that the public share this satisfaction.—Reuter.

Chinese Troops' Threat to Tibet

London, Dec. 13.

A Bombay telegram states that Tibetan traders arriving at Kalimpong report that 5,000 Chinese troops are massing on the borders of Tibet. The authorities at Lhasa are taking precautions.

It is also reported that parties of Turks have appeared on the northern borders of Tibet and are working to enlist the sympathies of the Mongolians.—Reuter.

RUSSIAN STATUS IN CHINA

Bolshevik Note from Harbin

Peking, Dec. 11.

In addition to the ready response from the Waichiaopu, the Diplomatic Note on the subject of Russian affairs in China has drawn a flank fire from Harbin, in the form of a memorandum from a united conference of professional, railway and municipal associations, political parties and social organizations in the Chinese Eastern Railway area.

The preface to this memorandum states that "it is the duty of the Conference to declare, in the name of the Russian working population of the Chinese Eastern Railway, as follows:—

"(1) All the measures that the Diplomats' Note proposes—as, for instance, the maintenance of the former Russian courts and their personnel, and the appointment of Russian advisers and judges by agreement between the Diplomatic Corps and the Chinese Government—will by no means satisfy the demands of Russians residing in China.

"(2) The final regulation of the relations between Russian and Chinese citizens can only be made by negotiations between China and the Far Eastern Republic, whose legal mission is now in Peking.

"(3) The regulation of the relations between Russians in China should be governed by a treaty between foreign Powers and Russia.

"THE BOURGEOIS POWERS."

"(4) In the Diplomats' Note we see a desire to force the Chinese Government to decide the question of the condition of Russians in China in the interests of foreign citizens, and not of Russians, totally ignoring Russia, the country chiefly interested.

"In view of the above we, seeing in the action of the Corps a continuation of the policy of foreign Powers to force their will upon the Russian people and support the reactionary parties, protest most vigorously, and declare that no agreement, and no treaty with the Diplomatic Corps, regulating the relations between Russians, Chinese and foreigners, unless sanctioned by the Far Eastern Republic, can be legal and, therefore, will not be binding upon Russians."—Reuter.

RUSSIAN GENERALS ARRESTED

Chinese General's Order for Release

Harbin, Dec. 11.

It is semi-officially stated that General Pao Kuei-ching, of Kirin, has ordered the Chinese authorities at Harbin to send back to

Pogranichnaya Generals Siroboyarsky and Sokoloff, who were arrested last week and are now held as prisoners here. The local authorities declare they do not know the motive for the arrest of the Generals, as it was ordered and carried out by an officer from Mukden. It is rumoured, however, that the reason was General Siroboyarsky's alleged possession of documents concerning a reactionary plot at Harbin. The report that the Generals were in possession of large sums of money is understood to have been greatly exaggerated.—Reuter.

TRAGIC STATE OF URGAS RUSSIANS

Hostages to Chinese Against Invasion

From Rodney Gilbert.

Peking, Dec. 16.

The Russian ex-Consuls from Kiachta and Kobdo, the Vice-Consul at Urga and the Commandant of the Urga Consular guard arrived in Peking to-day. They left Urga with 16 motor-cars and arrived at Kalgan with eight.

They bring confirmation of the pitiful condition of the Russian and Mongol prisoners. There are 450 Russians in the Chinese gaoi, foodless, filthy, without clothes and abused by the soldiery.

The newly arrived officials state with conviction that the present attacking force numbers nearly 3,000 and that it is led by Baron Ungern, with his present headquarters at Menza on the Siberian frontier northeast of Urga. The Chinese authorities are holding the Russian colony as a hostage, threatening them with extermination if the Chinese are defeated. The whole community are convinced that the invaders have been invited and financed by the Hutukhtu, hoping for liberation from Chinese tyranny.

DIPLOMATS' FURTHER PROTEST TO WAICHIAOUPU.

The Diplomatic Body replied to the Note from the Foreign Minister, Dr. Yen, on the Russian situation on Tuesday in outline as follows:—

They welcome the Chinese assurances of favourable treatment to the Russians, hoping that, as they have been ratified by Presidential mandate, they will be applied; but they, the Legations, would indicate that Dr. Yen's note leaves several questions unsolved. Because these touch on foreign interests the Diplomatic Body must request further details.

Four queries are then put. First, will the police in Russian concessions be ruled by the Municipal Councils and will the Chinese authority be exercised through the councils or independently?

Secondly they request detailed information about the application of Russian law in the new courts.

Third, will the notaries public function elsewhere than in railway zones?

Fourth, will the Waichiaoupu define the capacity and functions of the Russian Advisers? Will they function in Turkestan, Mongolia and Peking.

The Diplomatic Body want a clear detailed statement for the information and instruction of their own nationals.

A NON R. C. IRISHMAN.

A petition from Urga residents to the Doyen of the Diplomatic Body has so moved the latter that a Note upon Urga conditions has been prepared to submit to the Chinese Government.

LITTLE HSU'S JAPANESE PROTECTORS

Waichiaoupu's Sharp Protest

Peking, Dec. 16.

The latest reply from the Waichiaoupu to Mr. Obata regarding the escape of Hsu Shu-tseng is a lengthy and forceful document. While hammering in the arguments already reported in previous Notes, it says:

"If Hsu Shu-tseng and the others who committed military and criminal offences, according to the law of my country, were able to get beyond the reach of the law on the pretext of finding asylum in your Legation, then lawless characters will certainly regard the Legations in Peking as a heaven of refuge, and this will constitute a great danger to the internal administration of China, and the maintenance of peace and order in Peking, which I am sure your Excellency, who has always respected law and justice, does not wish.

"Again, a Minister in an accredited country should not in the performance of his duties cause any difficulties to the internal administration of that country. This is an international usage which is beyond doubt, and is, I am sure, within your Excellency's perception."

CHINA BLAMELESS FOR CONSEQUENCES.

The Note later goes on to say: "Furthermore, Hsu Shu-tseng, being regarded as the most important and leading criminal, has been able to escape by taking advantage of the asylum afforded him. Hereafter, if any undesirable consequences, or hindrances to the maintenance of the peace and order of this country, or any damage to international trade, should be caused by his action, either in this country or outside, but within the sphere of influence of your country, it will be entirely due to the result of your Legation affording him asylum, and your not issuing instructions for stricter vigilance, but allowing him to escape.

"For this your Government should certainly bear the responsibility."

The Note asks Mr. Obata to give due consideration to the request that the remaining Anfuities should be handed over, and concludes with a request for a satisfactory answer to the four proposals put forward by the Waichiaoupu in its Note of November 20.—Reuter.

Hankow Bled for Soldiers

Hankow, Dec. 11.

It is stated that the local Chinese Chamber of Commerce has contributed five lakhs for arrears of soldiers' pay. This has relieved the situation, at least for the time being.—Reuter.

Civil Government in Canton

Canton, Dec. 13.

It has been decided that at the beginning of January there shall be formed a Commission of the Civil Government of Canton, consisting of the heads of the six Departments of Education, Finance, Police, Public Safety, Public Utilities and Public Health.—Reuter.

Canton's Peace Terms

Peking, Dec. 15.

The Government has received a telegram from Dr. Sun Yat-sen, who says that a settlement with Canton is unlikely unless the following measures are carried out: (1) The dismissal of all the military element from the Government; (2) the withdrawal of the unification mandate, and (3) the Government's refraining from borrowing foreign loans. As the two first demands are described as impossible of acceptance, the telegram is taken as a refusal to begin negotiations.—Reuter.

CANTON'S DEMAND FOR SALT SURPLUS

Threat to Legations

Canton, Dec. 14.

According to a local Chinese news agency several leading organizations and individuals are advocating making the open ports in the Southwest free ports, because the Customs authorities, backed by the Diplomatic Corps, have refused to hand over part of the Customs Surplus to the new Southwestern Government.

The supporters of this policy assert that, since the Southwest cannot recognize Peking's unification mandate, what the Southwesterners have contributed to the Customs revenue should be returned to them, otherwise there is no other way open to them than to refuse to pay the Customs tax.—Reuter.

CHINESE STUDENTS IN BRITAIN

China Assoc'n and the Boxer Indemnity

London, Dec. 12.

The China Association in London, in a memorandum dealing with the education of Chinese students in Great Britain, suggests that, following the example of the United States, Great Britain should divert £100,000 yearly from the Boxer indemnity to the maintenance of such students, and emphasizes the resultant advantages to British trade of such a measure.—Reuter.

A CALL FOR ACTION.

London, Dec. 14.

The "Daily Mail," in a leading article, urges that action should be taken by Great Britain in regard to the training of Chinese students, to avoid the decline of our trade with China, especially in view of the activities of France, America and Japan.—Reuter.

Promotion of Franco-Chinese Enterprises

Paris, Dec. 10.

The French Parliamentary Commerce Committee held an important meeting in one of the offices of the Palais Bourbon, on Tuesday morning, M. Charles Chaumet, the former Minister, presiding.

M. Paul Painlevé gave a very graphic account of his recent mission to China and expressed the hope that the University of Paris would organize an annexe of its Faculty of Science in China, in order to train Chinese technical experts and instruct them in Western science with a view to assisting in the development of the natural wealth of China. The speaker recommended the establishment of Franco-Chinese enterprises which, he said, would enable France to achieve a leading place in the Far East, notwithstanding the competition of other foreign nations.—French Wireless.

THE Chinese-American Bank of Commerce, with headquarters in Peking, has authorized the opening of a branch at Manila.

An ingenious explanation of the recent numerous mutinies throughout China is offered in the native press where it is stated that they are caused by a policy adopted by the Central Government in order to oppose the tuchuns. The Central Government declares that if the tuchuns receive the money which they are clamouring for they only enlarge their present forces. Therefore, by keeping them without money the disbandment of surplus soldiers will follow as a natural sequence—Ingenious, but a little rough on the soldiers.

OUTPORTS

FINANCE MINISTER AND CONSORTIUM

Mr. Chou's Famous Letter

WHAT HE REALLY MEANT TO MAKE PLAIN.

From Rodney Gilbert.

Peking, Dec. 8.

The very severe criticism which Mr. Chou Tze-chi's note to the bankers representing the Consortium has elicited from the foreign press and from the Legations is perhaps no less than the note called for, and certainly no less than Mr. Chou expected. The fact that foreigners generally leaped so eagerly upon Mr. Chou and bit so readily at the bait which he offered, is in itself a woeful acknowledgement of ignorance of the Chinese mind in the first place and of the Chinese press in the second. Without having consulted Mr. Chou at all in the matter, the writer can assure the public that the storm which his note has raised is precisely what he desired and that nothing could be more satisfactory to him than the adverse advertising which has been given it in the foreign press. A few words should suffice to explain why.

MILITARIST IDEALS OF FINANCE.

Mr. Chou Tze-chi is expected by his Government to raise money for this Government by hook or crook. In the eyes of the military men, who stand sponsor for the Government, that is the primary function of a Minister of Finance. For many weeks the Chinese press has been reflecting the opinion of the Chinese public to the effect that this Government should have no loans. In its campaign against foreign loans the Chinese press has insisted over and over again, in spite of foreign advices, that the Consortium would constitute a financial monopoly and that sooner or later China would be called upon to pledge the Land Tax as security for a foreign loan. Mr. Chou Tze-chi presumably reads the Chinese papers and senses Chinese public opinion, as the foreign financial agents presumably do not. To put Mr. Chou in the least charitable light, he is a politician, he observes the trend of the times, and he realizes that the Government official who negotiated a loan at this moment for the Peking Government would be classed in the public mind with the gentlemen who enjoy Mr. Obata's hospitality. For this and other reasons he does not want to affix his signature to loan contracts. Supposing that he is only a politician and has no conscience of his own, it must have been apparent to him that he had to "square" himself with the Chinese people and the Chinese press at once.

NOT PAWNING CHINA.

He had to prove to them that he was not pawning China in the in-

terests of the Peking Government. In any other country the Minister of Finance would have made a public statement to this effect, or he would have called together the correspondents and opened his mind to them. China, unfortunately, has not gone so far.

So Chou Tze-chi wrote a letter to the Chinese people and the Chinese press, addressing it, in true Chinese round-about style, to the bankers. What the bankers, who are with some justice incensed, should appreciate is that Chou Tze-chi, when he wrote to them, did not have them in mind at all. He knew that he was doing them an injustice, but indirectly he was doing himself and the Chinese people justice.

The bankers never asked for a lien on China with the Land Tax as security, but the Chinese people were convinced that they had, and that Mr. Chou was secretly arranging the bargain. If Mr. Chou had published a denial in the Chinese press he would not have been believed. By embodying his denial in a letter to the Consortium representatives he convinces his fellow-countrymen.

A PATRIOTIC ACT.

Two distinct ends are achieved. In the first place Chou Tze-chi has cleared himself of a serious charge before the Chinese people. In the second place his note has interrupted all loan negotiations and has made it next to impossible for the Chinese Government to borrow money through the Consortium while he is in office. Chou Tze-chi has been known for many years as the faithful friend of Americans and Britons in China. By the drafting of the recent note he has probably sacrificed the friendship of many persons whose esteem he values, and this he will feel keenly; but he will feel more keenly than anything else the total misapprehension of his purpose in writing the note, the painful lack of understanding of the Chinese way of doing things by the people who are delegated by the Foreign Powers to assume the responsibility of serious negotiations with China.

HONGKONG AND OPIUM

Further Continuance of Purchase

Delhi, Dec. 13.

At the request of the Hongkong Government, the Indian Government has agreed to renew the agreement for the direct supply of opium at a fixed price for five years, beginning next year.—Reuter.

PEKING, Dec. 13.—The Cabinet has decided to accept Lieut. Masiero's S.V.A. machine, with which he flew from Rome to Tokio, and which the Italian Government has offered to China as a token of co-operation between China and Italy, and as an expression of thanks for the warm welcome extended to Lieuts. Masiero and Ferrarin in China in the course of their historic flight.—Reuter.

PEKING DAY BY DAY

Kuangsi Autonomy—Disorderly Urga—Explosive Making in Antung.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Peking, Dec. 11.

Reports received here by Chinese would seem to show that even Kuangsi is developing a provincial autonomy movement under the very nose of Lu Yung-ting as it were. General Ch'en Ping-chun, a Kuangsi man, is said to have taken up the popular cry of "Kuangsi for the Kuangsi-ites" and to have declared war upon General Lu. It is also reported that the Cantonese generals are not nearly so eager to invade Kuangsi as Dr. Sun and that the assault upon Kuangsi will probably have to be dropped altogether if the natives of the province show any disposition to rid themselves of General Lu, for in such a case there would be no apology to offer but ambition for conquest.

Since the removal of the Americans and Japanese from Urga the soldiery in that disorderly town have found a new victim in the person of a Mr. Albert Steffen, a Swiss citizen, whom they robbed of clothing, money, rings and passports, and otherwise abused. Representations in his interest have been made at the Waichiaopu and redress is demanded.

Lieut.-Col. Orpen-Palmer, who formerly resided in Peking as a language officer, is due to arrive to-day or to-morrow and assume his duties as British Military Attaché. Major Brooke, Intelligence Officer at Tientsin, who has been acting as Military Attaché will shortly be relieved of his work in the Attaché's office.

It has been the subject of common report for some time that Japanese business men had erected and were operating a plant at Antung for the manufacture of high explosives, presumably for use in mining. China has always protected herself against the free import and sale of explosives in her foreign treaties and her customs regulations, so that, as all foreign firms know, it is by no means easy to import such materials even for legitimate purposes. Many firms which deal or would like to deal in explosives were therefore interested in the stories about the Japanese factory which have been in circulation and the Legations have frequently been asked to make inquiries through the Chinese authorities.

A traveller from Antung now brings the information that the plant was erected and put in commission against the wishes of the Chinese Government and that since inquiries have been instituted the Government has asked that manufacture of explosives be suspended and that the Japanese promoters of the enterprise remove their plant.

The Consortium's Agent—Sino-Japanese Fracas—Japan and Siberia Reds.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Peking, Dec. 13.

In view of the fact that Mr. Stevens, the Consortium representative, is due to arrive in Peking on December 19, the following appreciation of his personality and career, extracted from a private letter written by a well known member of the firm of Morgan and Company, may be of interest in China:

"Mr. Frederick W. Stevens, the American group representative..... is now on his way to Peking. Mr. Stevens is an unusual man, not only in his natural equipment but in his training and experience. He took law at Michigan and went to the bar of that state at once, where in a comparatively short time he established a fine reputation. He gained a very wide and useful experience in railroad work while there and this fits him for that side of his task in China. It was while he was engaged in railroad work that the attention of my firm was directed to him and we invited him to join us over ten years ago. His services here took him into industrial and financial lines and reorganization work, in all of which he did exceedingly well. He retired five years ago and since then has been serving us as a consultant in a number of important matters. He is of a sturdy, substantial American type, with an extraordinary capacity for work. I am confident that he will make good in China."

A reliable, but very dimly outlined, account of the inevitable "incident" in the Hungchun district has just reached Peking, relayed by Chinese officials. It would appear from Chinese reports that about ten days ago a small body of Chinese soldiery, detailed to co-operate with the Japanese in the suppression of Korean activities in the neighbourhood of Holunghsien, came upon two Japanese military policemen conveying Korean prisoners to the Japanese military headquarters. In some way the sporting instinct of the Chinese soldiers was aroused and the Japanese functionaries were killed while the Koreans were released. This resulted in a conflict on a larger scale between the Japanese gendarmes and the Chinese soldiery, the details of which have not yet been reported.

The Japanese threatened vaguely to do something if the Vladivostok assembly recognized the Chita government; and now Vladivostok has voted for recognition. Of course everyone in Peking interested in Vladivostok is speculating upon what the Japanese will do and as all sorts of surmises are discussed between people having all sorts of sympathies, the conviction seems to be growing that Japan has already begun to act and

that her revenge upon Vladivostok for ignoring her warning will be the isolation of the port.

The general opinion seems to be that the Simionov-Kappel forces will be moved to Nikolsk, concentrated there, re-equipped and refinanced, and that Nikolsk will be their new base. From this point they can readily control all traffic and other communications on both the Trans-Manchurian and Amur railways and Vladivostok will be most effectually cut off from Chita. The occupation of Habarovsk besides would help in railway control and in control of the littoral but would not be essential. With the co-operation of the Simionov troops, Japan, would be in a position to reduce her garrisons to the minimum, thus satisfying public opinion in Japan and at the same time to isolate Vladivostok.

HANGCHOW NOTES

From Our Own Correspondent.

Hangchow, Dec. 10.

The telegram of sympathy to the maltreated members of the Kiangsu Provincial Assembly has been rescinded at to-day's sitting of the Chekiang Assembly. The members of the latter are invited to meet the Missionary body by the Union Evangelistic Council next Tuesday at the home of Dr. and Mrs. Robert Fitch.

The charges against the late Governor of misappropriation of funds was brought up again in a heated statement by Hsu Chi-chien yesterday, as also another attempt by the same member to get Mr. Hardoon to renounce some of his rights to his "priceless site" by the West Lake.

It is alleged that no account has been rendered by Governor Chi of \$2,000,000 in his hands at his removal from office. Energetic measures continue to be taken in connexion with the newly-established Local Government Office. The delegates from the 11 principal districts of the province are meeting shortly.

The strike amongst silk-weavers in the North end of the city has resulted in the desired end: a small increase in wages.

The new Police Superintendent takes over office to-day.

Rice is falling a little in price.

The interest on the loan being negotiated to buy up a large quantity to be stored for cheap sale to the people during the winter, is to be added to the estimates of the Treasury.

The Provincial Normal School came out victorious in a football match with the Hangchow College team on the 8th instant.

The approaching wedding is announced in Hongkong of Mr. Harry O'Dell, Manager of Messrs. Getz Bros. & Co., to Miss Sophie Weill, daughter of Mr. Albert Weill, of Messrs. Sennett Freres.

CHINA'S UNPAID SOLDIERY

Danger at Paotingfu

TSAO KUN'S TROOPS NOT PAID FOR 13 MONTHS

From Rodney Gilbert.

Peking, Dec. 10.

Foreign travellers from Paotingfu are bringing accounts of an impending revolt against Tuchun Tsao Kun which cannot be confirmed in Government circles in Peking but which are told so circumstantially by reliable persons who speak Chinese and have come in close touch with the soldiery that they cannot be ignored.

The nucleus of the new military organization in Paotingfu is made up of men from the 6th Brigade, the second brigade of the 3rd Division, formerly under the direct command of Wu Pei-fu, now under General Chang Fu-lai, a kindly efficient old soldier in whom Wu Pei-fu used to put great reliance. The old soldiers in the organization complain that they have not been paid for 13 months and that Tsao Kun is now directly responsible for withholding the funds. They say that when they were with Wu Pei-fu they had the satisfaction of knowing that whatever Wu had they shared and that they never lacked anything which Wu himself did not lack also. They say that now that they are directly under Tsao Kun their pay is diverted to the creation of parks and yamen improvements, and that they will be forced to revolt to get what is due them.

A TRAGIC LITTLE TALE.

In China the people, and even the soldiers, are very docile and complacent under imposition until some little incident crops up which excites them beyond control, blows the lid off the seething kettle, and starts them upon a career of violence which nothing will check. According to the soldiers in Paotingfu, such an incident occurred a few days ago when an old man from the famine district came to the provincial capital, starving and exhausted to look for his son who was a soldier in Chang Fu-lai's organization. He found his son who had no money and no place to borrow it. The soldier took his father to the commissary kitchen and asked them for a little food for the old man. This was refused and after some disturbance the soldier and his companions were ejected from the kitchen. By way of protest in the Chinese fashion the soldier went to his quarters and shot himself and it is said that the old man died of starvation in the streets. This incident of course exasperated the troops in the particular company to which the suicide belonged and, after arming themselves, they rushed out of the barracks looking for their officers, encountered a captain and murdered him out of hand.

The natural sequel to such an affair under ordinary circumstances would have been the looting of the city, but the soldiers announced that they had too good an understanding of the situation to rob the shopkeepers and that, when they were ready to revolt, they would go directly to the Tuchun's yamen, kill Tsao Kun and then proceed to loot all the government offices and official residences.

THE FUNDAMENTAL REVOLUTION.

According to the foreigners who report these matters Paotingfu is in a state of tense expectation and many persons, including some foreigners, are barricading their residences and preparing to weather a violent storm. Officials in the Ministries said last night that they had no knowledge of this situation, but that it would not surprise them. No sympathy was expressed anywhere for the Tuchun, and it was freely remarked that as a result of student propaganda and a general shortage of funds such conditions might be expected throughout China. One prominent official remarked yesterday that such events were omens of the coming of the "fundamental revolution" which the radicals are always preaching. He expressed the opinion that if the impending "reorganization" of the Cabinet meant a return of the Anfuites under the auspices of the President and Chang Tso-lin, there would be unprecedented turmoil in China during which Wu Pei-fu will again emerge as the popular champion.

For nearly a year all classes of Chinese have been promising us something of this sort. Sometimes they seem to believe that the provincial autonomy movement will act as a safety valve and that anarchy will be averted, and then again they despair and say that China still has the "fundamental revolution" ahead of her and that nothing will prevent it. The reports of affairs in Hunan, of the mutinies at Ichang and Kaoyang, have supplied fresh inspiration to the local Jeremiahs and China's immediate future is again painted in the darkest colours wherever one goes in Peking.

THE International Anti-Opium Association, Peking, has received information from Mr. Kawakami, General Secretary of the Japan Peace Society, that an anti-opium department has been formed in the Japan Peace Society. It will be established under the direct control of Baron Sakatani, Vice-President of the Peace Society.

It is learned that the Chen-yi Bank (formerly The Sino-Italian Industrial Bank) will be formed with a capital of \$10,000,000. Subscriptions for the capital will be issued on December 15, and will close at the end of the year. The bank has already been registered and approved both at the Currency Bureau and at the Ministry of Finance.

MOTOR-CARS IN NORTH KIANGSU

Old World China on Wheels

From Our Own Correspondent.

Suchien, Ku., Dec. 9.

Suchien has not much to boast of in the way of news. In my last letter I mentioned we had a visit of a motor car, the first seen in these parts and of an agent for the same. He has been successful in pushing his business. I think over 30 of our merchants have united to buy two, which are expected here soon, and the "Ts'ing Hsu Motor Service" will soon be opened. The cars I hear are to run between Ts'ing-tsiangpu and Hsuehowfu, so we will soon be in touch with the train service. Already the wide road to Kuankou on the canal used by richmen and made in one of our famine years has been widened and made four feet higher.

Two men are away down to Shanghai to learn to drive the said cars; and I am told the trip from here to Hsuehowfu per person, without luggage, will come out about Mex. \$5.

The tufei in some parts of the country are worse than ever. They are making night raids and carrying off both booty and persons.

STRANGE REMEDIES.

There is a good deal of sickness mostly among children. The epidemic seems like influenza but attacks patients in their weak parts. In many cases swollen throats and in others stomach symptoms.

We have some curious remedies for sickness up here. Some days ago your correspondent heard of a request at the dairy for some of the "froth" from the cow's mouth when chewing the cud. The patient was in a hopeless condition from some throat and stomach trouble and had been told, if this remedy could be procured it would be effectual.

Milk is much more in demand amongst the Chinese. I heard the other day of a military official who engaged a man to milk a cow for him, and after he had just started his duties told the servant he "must 'pao'-promise"—the milk would not give him any disease! The man had been a cook with foreigners, and, it is needless to say, thought he would prefer to give up the job.

Last night some 12 refugees from Paotingfu turned up for a night's lodging. They were better class people who are on their way south to a relative who has a shop. They have been walking for days, and had used up some 50,000 cash they started with. I suppose just a few out of many that are on the roads just now.

A Chinese telegram from Peking states that owing to opposition, the Ministry of Finance has decided not to enforce the income tax for another three months. Does this mean waiting till after Parliament meets?

UNPAID SOLDIERS OF HUNAN

A Train Held Up

TRAVEL MADE IMPOSSIBLE BY BANDITS

From Our Own Correspondent.

Wuchang, Dec. 7.

Yesterday the train from Changsha arrived in Wuchang about 12 hours late, and after the passengers had had somewhat of an exciting experience. There had been rumours that the journey was likely to be interrupted by the soldiers, but these were afterwards discredited and it seemed as though the journey was to be no more uncomfortable than usual. However, after leaving Yochow the train slowed down considerably and crawled along at a snail's pace, the reason being that the permanent way was crowded with hundreds of soldiers walking about, and to have run over any of these gentry was a matter that no engine-driver would have dared to consider. Finally the train came to a dead stop, the Southern troops at Yochow stating that they were going to stop all railway traffic until they had received their arrears of pay which were owing them for several months. The poor unfortunate travellers, among whom was a foreign lady, were held up for 10 hours during a bitterly cold night, without any warmth or food being provided.

At length the troops, no doubt coming to the conclusion that the stoppage of traffic was not going to put any of their wages into their pockets, decided to let the train proceed to its destination, which it did at about 10 miles an hour.

MISSIONARIES PREVENTED TRAVELLING.

The China Inland Mission in Hankow have just had word that one of their missionaries and his wife and three children have been held up by the officials at one point on a journey to Honan by the Han Valley. The authorities state that the district beyond is infested by robbers and that they are unable to give any protection to travellers. Though the particular town is on one of the main trade routes of that area, there seems to be neither law, protection nor safety for any engaged in journeyings.

FEAR OF SOLDIERS IN HANKOW.

Hankow, Dec. 9.

There is some feeling of unrest in the native city of Hankow. It is attributed to the strained relations which exist between the Military and Civil Governors. It is feared that the soldiers of the former are being incited to create disturbances, but thus far no outbreak has occurred.

Sun Tuan-fang, commander of the First Division, who is the Military Governor's nominee and

NINGPO NOTES

From Our Own Correspondent.

Ningpo, Dec. 8.

Yesterday afternoon at the Y. M. C. A. the Committee for Famine Relief held its monthly meeting. Mr. Carey, the Commissioner of Customs presided. It was decided to ask the three large steamship lines which have regular passenger service between Ningpo and Shanghai to assess each passenger a certain amount according to the class of ticket to assist in the famine relief fund. The amounts to be asked to each class of ticket is as follows,—first class foreign, \$1; first class Chinese, 2 dimes, second class, one dime; third class, five coppers. It is estimated that if this goes into effect the amount collected from one trip of all three ships will approximate \$150. This will help very materially in the raising of funds. This is not to apply on fares from Shanghai to Ningpo but only to Shanghai from Ningpo.

The Executive Committee of the Famine Relief Association was greatly strengthened by the addition of the names of the Taoyin, the Commissioner of Customs, the Bishop of the French Catholic Mission and one or two others of prominence here in Ningpo.

It was further decided to send out a call for old clothes of all descriptions, such contributions to be sent to the Y. M. C. A. as a central receiving station, where they will be later sent to the Committee in Shanghai.

The Ningpo Missionary Association held its bi-monthly meeting at the home of the Baptist Single Ladies last evening. The meeting was addressed by the Rev. Milton Stauffer of the China Continuation Committee who had for his subject, "The Christian Missionary Occupation of Chékiang Province." The material he presented was of great interest to all. It stimulated many to wonder if the policy of their Missions was the wisest in view of the facts brought out. Refreshments were served after a brief business meeting.

Socialist Meetings Broken Up in Japan

Tokio, Dec. 10.

Three hundred Socialists from points throughout Japan met here for the scheduled inauguration of the Socialists' League. The police broke up the meeting at the outset, amid commotion and the singing of revolutionary songs: five arrests were made.

It is reported that, nevertheless, the Socialists had previously met elsewhere, and outwitting the police, had inaugurated the League. —Reuter.

locally unpopular with civilians, is reported to have asked the Chamber of Commerce for five lakhs of dollars for the troops.

The remainder of Wu Pei-fu's troops from Honan are reported to have arrived at Wuchang.—Reuter.

HOW ICHANG WAS LOOTED

A Pre-arranged Affair

From Our Own Correspondent.

Ichang, Dec. 1.

The soldiers stationed in Ichang mutinied, and looted the city on the night of November 29. The outbreak was quite unexpected, although some say that they had heard rumours during the preceding afternoon that the city was to be looted that night. That it was a well planned affair is proved by the systematic and very thorough fashion with which the looting was carried out. A little after midnight firing of rifles began, and the indiscriminate letting off of their rifles (happily mostly into the air) was one of the main features of the outbreak.

It is commonly rumoured that the Chamber of Commerce were asked to find sufficient money to pay at least two months' wages to the troops, who are said not to have been paid for six months. The Chamber of Commerce have on several occasions found the money partly to pay the men, but this time they refused. The looting seems to have started simultaneously in different parts of the city, and very few parts escaped. The following well known places of business, all situated in the South Gate district, were cleared out: Bank of Communications, Bank of China (here they did not succeed in breaking into the strong room), Macris & Co., Butlin & Co., the Robert Dollar Co., Chinese Post Office (about \$1,000 got here, but the mails not touched), Lee Chang Tseng Tsang, Young Bros., British-American Tobacco Co. Several of the above places were burned to the ground, and one N.K.K. go-down full of cotton yarn was also gutted by the fire. Then there was a very complete clearance of the other main shops. In the city two fires were started and a large area in which valuable shops were situated was burnt down. There was quite a number of severely wounded brought into the hospital next morning, and no one knows how many were shot dead, or burnt in the fires.

The following day business was at a standstill, and the people, fearing a repetition that night, flocked into the comparative safety of the schools, hospitals, and other foreign compounds, and not a few availed themselves of a steamer that was leaving that night for Hankow. The night, however, passed in abnormal quietness, and to-day the Chamber of Commerce agreed to pay \$100,000, \$60,000 of which was paid to-day, and \$40,000 is to be paid to-morrow.

MAJOR Dockray will shortly return to Urga at the request of the Chinese Government to put the new wireless station in working order again.

NO BOLSHEVISM IN HUNAN

Gen. Chao's Fall

SOUTHERN GOVERNMENT IN CHARGE AT CHANGSHA

From Our Own Correspondent.

Changsha, Dec. 8.

Yesterday (Sunday) Chao Heng-ti fell and with him the last remnant of the adherents of T'an Yen-kai were purged from the *de facto* government of the province, all offices being now filled with adherents of the southern military government centring at Canton.

The decision to replace Gen. Chao was come to at a meeting of military officers which was held on Saturday. The choice of his immediate successor fell on Brigadier-General Liao Chia-tung who has assumed office as "Temporary Commander-in-Chief."

The change was carried out fairly quietly on Sunday. The soldiers in charge, almost all of whom were connected with the Hunan First Division, which has been the special command of Gen. Chao, were distinguished by white armlets and white tags attached to their rifles. They took charge of the city gates on the north and east sides (the barracks are in the northeast suburbs) and practically closed them for traffic. Foreigners were challenged, but allowed to pass; Chinese were turned back. All the office belongings of the Commander-in-Chief were looted or knocked about; but that was all the rioting that occurred. Amongst the soldiers themselves the foremost grievance was the lack of pay. I met one of the sergeants who has served with Gen. Chao for six years. He is a very obstinately honest chap and was not admitted into the plans of armlets, etc. When he discovered some of his men adorning themselves, he of course asked the reason and proceeded to give them excellent advice against looting and burning the city. "Are you the one man in special charge of Changsha?" was the retort; he was told he had better clear out, and as the advice was shortly followed by the shooting of a none too popular captain, the sergeant took the advice to heart and cleared out, as he assured me, without a cash of ready money or a coat or trousers to wear after six very hard years of faithful service.

HOW IT WAS ENGINEERED.

Whatever weight may be given to that distribution of socialistic literature amongst the soldiers of which I wrote a short time back, it is a fact that this movement beginning with the removal of T'an Yen-kai and continuing with the removal of Chao Heng-ti, the interval being occupied with the removal of the whole of the "Mashih-hong" clique, has been altogether engineered by officers, mem-

bers of the old Provincial Assembly and gentry of the type who were denounced in the school-boy pamphlets. (The school-boys, of course, have been entirely silent in these movements).

The recently elected civil governor, Mr. Lin Tzu-yu, retains his seals of office. Mr. Ch'ou Ao, who graduated some years ago in Japan, goes back for a second term of office to the Foreign Bureau. The city police are to be superintended by Mr. Liu Shou-ch'ang and the river police by Mr. Wang Tao, an old Kuomintang radical.

NO BOLSHEVISM.

The city is quiet and there is no evidence of any fear on the part of householders or shopkeepers of violence in the immediate future. This in itself is, to my thinking, a contradiction of the rumours of "Bolshevism." To any one desiring the pleasure of a very expressive explosive, "Bolshevism" is a great relief to the feelings. But to any one who means by "Bolshevism" an advanced form of communism, there is nothing worth mentioning in Hunan to-day that can be called Bolshevistic. There is the same sort of movement that existed in England long before Wat Tyler's rebellion and always does exist in any land where wealth and poverty jostle each other unceremoniously, which is expressed in the old saying that "Jack is as good as his master." The Hunan soldier to-day is in much the same position as a statesman who broke loose from his party and being asked why he did not follow his leader, retorted "Because he does not go in front of me."

There is so far no objection to following a leader provided the "leader" takes the main direction that the soldier thinks he ought to. It is very doubtful whether there is a soldier in all the barracks of Hunan who really understands the Chinese equivalent of Communism. It is told that two women began looting in one street, thinking the opportunity had arrived when there was a difficulty in getting through the city gates. They were shot without any form of trial by the first soldiers who came across them. Business, of course, is really affected by the unrest that does exist below the surface. While there is no immediate expectation of looting, there is also no confidence in the more distant future and no one wants to stock more goods than will suffice for a short time.

With a view to protecting the interests of the labourers, the Government has deemed it necessary to promulgate a set of Regulations governing the working conditions, etc., in the factories in this country. A set of draft regulations consisting of 56 articles have been jointly drawn up by both Ministries of the Interior and Agriculture and Commerce. These new regulations will soon be promulgated.

UNEASY CHANGSHA

Gen. Chao in Power Again

From Our Own Correspondent.

Changsha, Dec. 8.

I do not know whether this letter or my previous one will reach you earlier. Our incoming mails were delivered 27 hours late this morning and yesterday it was announced at the railway station that no train could go out till one had come in.

To-day's news is an astonishing turn-over from yesterday's. What I reported yesterday was perfectly correct: the officers stationed here had a meeting, they decided that Gen. Chao Heng-ti must go; they gave out as the pass word "Down with Chao"; the general was duly "downed" and his goods and belongings duly looted. His successor was elected and his first proclamation (in which, by the way, he styles himself "Temporary Commander" and not "Commander-in-chief"), is a sort that seems to mean business: it informs all and sundry that anyone "buying" things without paying for them, will be shot at sight, and is understood by everybody to mean that the soldiers are to do nothing in the way of loot.

Now this morning a friend comes in to greet me with the astonishing announcement that the "downed" general has come "up" again. Gen. Chao it seems has returned to the Commander-in-Chief's office and is now commanding his quondam rebels. Talk to half a dozen level headed men about the situation and you get half a dozen mutually exclusive accounts of what has happened, but only one about what will happen next:—"I don't know."

A BLACK SITUATION.

I have been consulted by two gentlemen since hearing of the return of the commander as to the best method of dealing with soldiers who have sipped—not drunk deep—at socialistic springs. I am assured that the city is to be burnt up (my informer was kind enough to add for my consolation "all but the foreign houses"). Another would be glad if I would turn hotel-keeper and take in him and especially his belongings. Yet another comes with the request that I would save the life of an unpopular official who has managed to offend the soldiers and who may be shot if he cannot be hidden in one of my rooms for the next week or so. But when I go on to the street, I find nobody scurrying with boxes and bedding as I know they will be at least 24 hours before the burning of the city happens.

The one thing that is evident is that just for the present there is no one at hand with the situation thoroughly in control. Very possibly the "luck" of Changsha will pull it through. But if it were any other city than Changsha I should say the day of doom was near.

THE MAD HATTER IN HUNAN

The Soldiers' \$3,000,000

A WAR TO MAKE SOMETHING FROM NOTHING

From Our Own Correspondent.

Changsha, Dec. 9.

Lewis Carroll was unfortunate in his surroundings. If only he had been living at Changsha he could have given us a revised version of Alice in Wonderland. Readers of that inimitable classic will know that there is a missing chapter—or rather a missing paragraph in many chapters: none of the Mad Hatter's schemes come off successfully. At last, here in far Cathay, we are not only as they still are in Lewis Carroll's homeland, having the M. H. with us; here he has successfully accomplished one of his schemes. Yesterday everybody who is anybody met together and they all lent each other \$3,000,000 and to-day they are all as happy as kings at the success of the plan.

Being a scheme of the M. H., there is no need to say that the dollars are paper bills—brand new ones which, unlike all paper bills that have preceded them, will not suffer depreciation. The loan is definitely to pay up the back scores of the soldiers which the new civil governor informed the borrowing lenders and lending borrowers amounted to \$10,000,000 last June. The three million is to be the first instalment (itself to be paid in three instalments) and to be followed (the day before the Greek calends) by a second instalment. The soldiers are mightily content. After which the Mad Hatter looks round at all editors and correspondents and says, with a wink: "Didn't I tell you they were Bolsheviks?"

FINDING THE NON-EXISTENT.

Mr. Lin Tzu-yu, the new civil governor, sent a communication a few days ago to the members of the Provincial Assembly, the members of the Chamber of Commerce, of the Salt Guild, and of the "gentry" asking them to meet and discuss the pressing problem of the soldiers' pay. He said that the deficit in pay up to June last was \$10,000,000; that after various consultations with the soldiers they demanded an immediate instalment of \$3,000,000. The barest needs of the government for the coming three months amounted to \$2,100,000 and the assets in the shape of probable income for those three months only came to this latter amount; it was necessary, therefore, to devise some means of procuring \$3,000,000. Yesterday the meeting was held and was largely attended.

The only men demanding mention were the two representatives of the Southern Military Government. The driving out of Gen. Chao and the getting him back are connected with the two facts that, first, a situation arose showing the urgent

need of \$3,000,000; second, the returned Gen. Chao made no objection to the official presence of official representatives of the Southern Military Government.

EXCELLENT—ON PAPER.

The following is the arrangement that was signed by the Provincial Assembly on the one hand, and the Chamber of Commerce and the Salt Guild on the other.

- 1.—A loan of \$3,000,000 from the Chamber and Guild is sanctioned.
- 2.—Sundry deeds of public lands and rights of mining privileges belonging to the Provincial Assembly are handed over to the Chamber and Guild as guarantee bonds for the loan.
- 3.—The loan is to be raised in three sums each of \$1,000,000.
- 4.—The notes to be issued in connexion with this loan are to be good for the payment of taxes, duties and all other governmental charges.
- 5.—If the notes are not redeemed by—(the date is left blank at least in the multigraph copy of the agreement from which I am translating) the Chamber and Guild are at liberty to realize the guarantee deeds.
- 6.—No addition to this authorized issue of notes is to be made without compensating addition to the securities.
- 7.—This agreement is signed by both of the contracting parties.

The soldiers' action must not be compared with that of striking workmen in the West. They are not striking for higher pay; they are using "direct action" to obtain the pay undoubtedly due to themselves. It is quite a distinct question whether the soldiers ought to have been employed or not; whether they ought to be disbanded or not. Their position is unassailable—they have been employed and have not been paid.

Miss Getty, a French-American nurse, who served in the Allied cause during the war and whose services received high praise, is now in Japan studying Buddhism. Miss Getty is well posted on the religious sects of India and Burma. Her studies will be devoted mostly to the sects of Tendai and Shingon. She is also interested in the study of the religion of blind people.

AMONG the centres of the world, probably no port receives more distinguished guests than Shanghai. Chief among its recent visitors is Sir Arthur Witten Brown, K.B.E., world famed as one of the two first men to fly across the Atlantic without a stop. He and his companion, Sir John Alcock, who was later killed in France, made the flight in a Vickers "Vimy" in record time, 16 hours, from St. Johns, Newfoundland, to the coast of Ireland. Sir Arthur Witten Brown served in the Manchester regiment at the beginning of the war and was later transferred to the Royal Flying Corps. His machine crashed down behind the German lines and he was a prisoner until 1918. He is accompanied by Mr. C. L. Dornton Duff, who was on special service in France for three and a half years. Both are now with Vickers, Ltd., and are in the East in the commercial interest of that company.

LAST YEAR'S FRACAS AT TIENTSIN

Japanese Apology

From Our Own Correspondent.

Peking, Dec. 11.

The Japanese Embassy, on December 7, addressed a formal apology to the American State Department for the illegal arrest of American soldiers at Tientsin in March of last year.

*. On March 13 of last year a fracas occurred between Americans and Japanese in Tientsin. It appeared that some American soldiers became boisterous in the Japanese Concession and the Japanese police feeling themselves inadequate to cope with the difficulty called for assistance from Japanese soldiers. In the struggle which ensued a number of American soldiers were injured and some arrested and it is for these arrests that the apology has been tendered.—Ed.

American and Japanese Notes

Our correspondent has since forwarded to us copies of the Notes interchanged with reference to the matter.

The Note from the Japanese Embassy to the U.S. Minister dated December 7 is as follows:—

"It has been brought to my attention that on the night of March 12, 1919, an unfortunate *mêlée* took place between certain American soldiers and Japanese civilians. On the Japanese side three were badly wounded in the Japanese Concession and seven others in the adjoining French Concession. Amid the disturbances one American soldier was arrested in the French Concession by the Japanese military and police authorities while another was seriously injured by the disorderly crowd and was also taken from that Concession to the Japanese police station.

"Shortly thereafter the American Consul-General visited the Japanese police station and in answer to the question which he had put to the Chief of Police he was given to understand that no American soldier was being detained at the station. The reply of the Chief of Police was admittedly inexact and misleading since two American soldiers were actually there under detention.

"On the following day, March 13 four American soldiers entered the premises of the Japanese Consulate-General at Tientsin and painfully assaulted without provocation an official of the South Manchuria Railway who happened to be standing at the entrance of the house.

"It would not be necessary to describe further particulars of the incident. The whole controversy is regrettable and in the belief of the Japanese Government it should speedily be brought to a friendly settlement, each government being ready to do justice to the other.

"Accordingly under authoriza-

tion of my government I have the honour to tender to the Government of the United States an expression of sincere regret for the illegal arrest of American soldiers by the Japanese authorities at Tientsin and for the untrue statement of the Chief of the Japanese Police at Tientsin in reply to the American Consul-General as to the presence of soldiers detained in the Japanese police station on the night of March 12, 1919."

THE AMERICAN PART.

The American Note, dated December 8, is as follows:

"In acknowledging the receipt of your Excellency's note of December 7, 1920, concerning the unfortunate incident which occurred at Tientsin on the night of March 12, 1919, between certain American soldiers and Japanese civilians and soldiers resulting in injuries to individuals on both sides, I have the honour to accept, on behalf of the Government of the United States, the expression of sincere regret so frankly tendered by you on behalf of the Japanese Government for the illegal arrest of American soldiers by the Japanese authorities at Tientsin and for the misleading statement made by the Japanese Chief of Police at Tientsin in reply to the American Consul-General as to the presence of American soldiers detained in the Japanese police station on the night of March 12, 1919.

"In connexion with the incident which occurred on the following day, March 13, when American soldiers entered the premises of the Japanese Consulate-General at Tientsin, and struck without provocation an official of the South Manchurian Railway Company who happened to be standing near the entrance of the house, I have the honour, on behalf of the Government of the United States, to repeat to the Japanese Government the expression of sincere regret for this incident which was originally conveyed to the Intelligence authorities by the Commanding Officer of the American Military at Tientsin at the time it occurred. I would further express the sincere regret of this Government if on the night of March 12, any American soldiers were present in the Japanese Concession contrary to the strict orders of the American military authorities."

Filipino Constables Riot

Manila, Dec. 15.

Forty Filipino members of the Manila Constabulary broke barracks here to-night, and, running amok, attacked the police, killing four Americans (a captain, two patrol men and an Army Intelligence Officer) and four Filipinos (two patrolmen and two civilians); three Filipinos were wounded.

The trouble was due to the shooting of a Filipino constabulary man by an American policeman, in self-defence, yesterday.

The rioters all surrendered finally, with the exception of five who escaped.—Reuter.

MR. SHAW BACK IN ANTUNG

Popular Rejoicings

FOUR MONTHS IMPRISONED WITHOUT TRIAL

From Our Own Correspondent.

Harbin, Dec. 5.

Though released several days previously Mr. G. L. Shaw did not return to his home at Antung until November 19. The reason for his remaining at Seoul was that he insisted that the Japanese Government should first give him some document to show that they had no objection to his leaving Korea for his Manchurian residence. Such a precaution was necessary for there have been cases in which persons, who have been imprisoned and afterwards released on bail, have left the country and immediately upon their doing so their trial has taken place, and in their absence their bail has been estreated and they condemned to various terms of imprisonment should they return to the country.

AN ENTHUSIASTIC RECEPTION.

News of Mr. Shaw's expected return to Antung quickly circulated in the town and a large crowd collected at the station to meet the train at 9 p.m. Mr. Shaw, who was in company with Mr. Cunningham, the British vice-consul at Seoul, had considerable difficulty in making his way through the cheering crowd, everybody being anxious to get a glimpse of the ex-prisoner and if possible a handshake as well. The general opinion was that he did not look any the worse for his enforced punishment. Escorted by a bevy of vehicles of all descriptions, Mr. Shaw drove to his office which had been specially lighted up for the occasion and when he arrived there all steamers in the harbour started whistling their welcome.

On the night following the foreigners of Antung entertained Mr. Shaw to a dinner, there were many toasts and speeches for the hosts represented many countries. Mr. Shaw, in reply, gave a bird's eye view of the treatment meted out to political prisoners by the police of the Land of the Rising Sun, and made it clear that no affection is wasted upon prisoners in the Land of Morning Calm. He also touched upon Japanese jurisprudence and the necessity of drastic changes. Needless to say the Chinese community of Antung, with whom this pioneer British merchant is very popular, likewise feted their fellow-resident.

For several years the Japanese have been trying to get the monopoly of the valuable Yalu River trade and have done all they can to put Mr. Shaw out of business. The extent of their success may be judged by the fact that his firm

has had more steamers in port this season than in any previous season, even though during the four most busy months he was a guest in Korea. One of the first things Mr. Shaw did was to proceed down river in one of his steam-launches, duly decorated for the occasion, and board the different British steamers still in port. The hearty welcome he received from shipping people must have stung not a little his Japanese rivals.

HIS LIFE IN PRISON.

Mr. Shaw was arrested on July 15, according to the Japanese papers "for the purpose of displaying the power of Japan in order to strike terror into the hearts of malcontent Koreans"; and we are told that law-abiding citizens were overjoyed at his incarceration. During the four months spent in prison he was much annoyed by what the Japanese call preliminary examinations. He was pointed out as a bad man and every Japanese paper which wished to throw mud at him, had something to say. This abuse did not stop at him alone but was extended to his family. Though mentally tortured and subject to many other persecutions, Mr. Shaw comes out of prison a fitter man than he went in. This he attributes to the amount of exercise he took, tramping sentry-go outside his lonely cells in the prison yards, and wearing out several pairs of shoes while traversing hundred of miles. Any idea of putting Shaw out of business has proved a complete failure for the Chinese merchants of Antung have great faith in his business ability, so much so, whether he is present or absent his business goes on just the same, whilst on account of his commercial integrity his firm is able to buy shiploads of goods at practically his own price. Many Chinese have good reason to be thankful to Mr. Shaw, whilst many in his employ years ago, then merely coolies, are to-day wealthy merchants.

Although Mr. Shaw is back home again and it seems unlikely that any trial will take place, he does not mean to remain inactive or silent for what he has had to go through. He will leave no stone unturned until he brings to book those who have been directly responsible for his arrest and do everything in his power to insist that Japanese law is revised, so that other foreigners will be safe from the fate which overtook him.

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THE MALTREATMENT OF KAIFENG STUDENTS

No Critics of Japanese Loans Allowed

From Our Own Correspondent.

Kaifeng, Hon., Dec. 9.

Since my yesterday's letter outlining the troubles that led to the wounding of a number of students by the police at the First Normal school, other details have come in and further complications have arisen.

It appears that the Governors had issued a notice that the Students Union was to be dissolved and that the Protective Association was to have a through renovating-reorganized without any student membership. The prohibition to the egress of the students yesterday was on account of the fact that the Student's Union had called a meeting on the Normal school athletic grounds to protest against the dissolution order, and it was while the normal students themselves were trying to reach the grounds that the trouble occurred.

So thorough was the supervision of the police over the seats of learning, or at least over their front doors, that when the Commissioner of Education himself attempted to enter the Second Middle school yesterday he was prevented from doing so. Nor were teachers permitted to leave the various schools all through the day.

It should be noted in passing that the teachers' troubles were the start of the present unhappy state of affairs, but that when the gubernatorial order came out against the Students' Union, then the executive of the Union determined that they were also on strike, in protest against such a harsh decision. It should likewise be noted that the students, who were defendants in the merchant's law-suit thought it safer to leave for their country homes, instead of letting the prosaic marches of the law hold them in dread suspense.

Thus it would seem that, after the events of yesterday showed at least the possibility of something more serious, and as there were no funds to square up the teachers' salary arrears that the students might be ordered back to class, a new order came out in the night to the following effect. The winter vacation to begin from this morning: the police still to cordon the schools and to permit none to leave without their baggage: and the Department of Education to put this lock-in lock-out order into effect without delay. Further this order is to affect all schools, even those that have not had part in the Student's Union, such as the Law school, and the American Preparatory school. The Mission schools are, however, outside the scope of this order, and are continuing their classes as usual.

Students, teachers and their sympathizers feel assured that the

whole proceedings have been arranged even to the closing of the merchant's shops in protest against the students' boycott measures to the end of closing the schools, that the troublesome critics of the proposed loan from Japanese sources might be squashed. Before the morning's order was promulgated it is said that half the student body had left for their homes, and to make the afternoon train connexion for the west long strings of rickshas were seen bearing many youths and their baggage.

PRINCIPALS' PROTEST TO PEKING.

Dec. 10.

The situation regarding the teachers and pupils in regard to their quarrel with the Governors has undergone no change since my recent despatch. Nor does it seem that the Governors will change in their attitude now as the pupils have nearly all gone home and the teachers have now no resources.

Yesterday afternoon the principals of the various schools had a meeting and arrived at the following resolutions:—(I) That they would make vigorous protest against the arbitrary closing of the schools. (II) That they demand the arrears of salary in full, and (III) That they ask for an inquiry into the affair at the Normal School in which over 20 of the students were injured. . . . some of them very seriously, without any overt act of lawlessness on their part to call down such inhuman treatment on the part of the police.

In connexion with the high-handed actions of the police at the Normal School your correspondent is informed that the Captain in charge of the western district in which the Normal School is situated, and the man in charge of this particular body of police detailed for duty at the school, was the adopted son of the famous third brother of the Tsuchun. This man it was who used his sword on the one student who was picked up for dead. Very fortunately the hospital authorities report favourably on his condition.

The principals, after their conference waited on the Civil Governor, who refused to receive them. In connexion with the third of their resolutions, as they hope to effect nothing in the city where military law is in constant operation, the teachers' association has sent delegates to Peking to place the affair before the Military Board.

The medical firm of Drs. Hiltner & Tenney has recently added a new member to the firm in the person of Dr. Thomas B. Dunn. The firm will hereafter be known as Drs. Hiltner, Tenney & Dunn. Dr. Thomas B. Dunn has been in the United States Navy for the past three years. He is a graduate of the University of California, B.Sc., 1913, and M.D., 1916. Dr. Dunn took special work in medicine and had his internship under Dr. Herbert Moffet, who is one of America's greatest specialists in diagnosis and internal medicine. Dr. Dunn hopes to specialize along these lines so far as possible in Shanghai.

ROBBERS IN SZECHUAN

Market Place Burned to the Ground

From Our Own Correspondent.

Mienchow Sze., Nov. 23.

Things are quiet in the city, but enough is happening in the cities round about to prove that the province is as restless as ever. A band of soldiers calling themselves Hanchun came down from Sungpan recently to the Lungan district. They attacked a market called Shuitsingpu, took the market and looted everywhere. They appropriated the rice, but threw the maize and wheat into the river. After this they set fire to the place.

Robberies are going on in all directions. This is the sort of thing that happens: Of ten women at a class one had just returned from a three weeks captivity with robbers, a second had a son carried off weeks ago, and a third had just been robbed. Again, a Christian family have been robbed of all their possessions.

Great Dama Storm in Japan

Tokio, Dec. 9.

Tuesday's storm caused extensive damage to the naval station at Kure, breaking down 100 feet of breakwater, sinking 29 vessels laden with pig iron and coal, and tearing from their moorings and stranding the destroyers Isonami and Ayanami. A landslide in the neighbourhood of a naval gun shed broke down an embankment, causing several 12-inch guns to topple into the sea. The damage is estimated at Y.500,000.

The storm was most severe elsewhere. A naval tug proceeding from Tokuyama to Kure was sunk off Shimmenato: the fate of her crew is unknown. The Osaka Shosen Kaisha steamer Aichi Maru, while on her way from Osaka to Nagoya, was stranded near Shirasaki. The crew and passengers were saved in the life-boats. —Reuter.

Eruption in Japan

Tokio, Dec. 10.

An eruption of Mount Asamayama occurred to-day. There was a violent earthquake at Takasaki, accompanied by clouds of black smoke and volcanic ashes. —Reuter.

The Tokio Kisen Kaisha have decided that their two non-subsidized liners Siberia Maru and Persia Maru are to call at Tairen and omit Nagasaki and Manila on both the outward and return voyages, reports the "Japan Gazette." From Yokohama to Hongkong the vessels will call at Shanghai and Tairen and vice-versa. The subsidized liners of the Company will continue to call at Nagasaki.

CHINESE MERCHANTS IN CONCLAVE

A Bold Speech

NO TAXATION WITHOUT REPRESENTATION

At last week's conference of the Chambers of Commerce of Kiangsu Province at Nanking, an important speech was delivered by Dr. F. C. Tong, Chief Delegate of both Chambers of Commerce of Shanghai. With the exception of one or two paragraphs not absolutely essential to the points the speaker made we give the address in full.

We meet here to determine the principles upon which the merchants of this province agree with regard to the abolition of likin and the revision of the regulations governing the Chambers of Commerce. At this conference we should also discuss two other questions which have been placed before the merchant body of this country by the Government, during the past year, namely, the Stamp Tax and the Income Tax. In considering these four questions we cannot act only as merchants but also, and more important, as citizens of the Republic of China and as citizens of the Republic of China we must guide in our deliberations by the welfare not only of our class and not only of the people of our province, but of all the people of the Republic of China.

THE QUESTION OF LIKIN.

The question of the abolition of likin comes before us now as part of an effort on the part of the Government to solve a question that has long been before it. I believe that the Government would be glad to have the tariff increased so that a substitute could be found for the obnoxious tax—likin. Also it is a fact that Great Britain and the United States have already agreed that if all the other nations will accept the increase and if likin is absolutely abolished in the country the tariff can be raised from 5 to 12 per cent.

At the present time the likin revenue is collected and expended differently in each province. Part of the funds are sent to Peking for the Central Government and part remains in the province for local expenses. The entire revenue from likin amounts approximately to \$40,000,000 a year and if we are opposed to the Government borrowing further sums of money from foreign nations, we must provide a way for the Government to abolish likin and at the same time have an additional source of revenue.

The answer of many people would be that the military expenses of the nation are about 80 per cent. of the total revenue of the country and if the Government cut the military expenses in half, the deficit from the abolition of likin would be covered. Furthermore, we can suggest that if all the na-

tions will agree to an increase in the tariff, that revenue will immediately be provided.

ILLEGAL TAXATION.

The Income Tax comes into effect on January 1, 1921. The Government has published a mandate with regard to this tax without consulting the merchants who will have to pay the taxes, and without consulting the wishes of the people with regard to it. For there is no legal parliament in the land and, according to the Provisional Constitution which should govern the country, such taxes cannot be made legal, such taxes cannot be recognized by the people until they are approved, until they are passed by a legal parliament. The President has said that he is determined to govern in accordance with the Provisional Constitution and he has issued a mandate calling upon the people to elect a parliament in accordance with that Constitution. Why then could he not have waited until such a parliament had met, and until such a parliament representing the people had passed a law governing the Income Tax?

We do not know what other mandate they may issue. We do not know what other taxes they may impose upon us. We do not know how they will collect these taxes and how the funds accruing from them will be expended. Peking says that this money will be used to further education and to develop industry. Long have we listened to promises from Peking and seldom have we seen their materialization.

REFORMS WE MUST DEMAND.

This is not a political meeting, it is a meeting of representatives from the Chambers of Commerce to discuss matters relating to finance and commerce. But we cannot overlook the fact that we live under a Government and that that Government is not protecting our interests and that it is necessary for us to protect ourselves against the encroachments of the Government and against the practices that have been brought into play during the last years. However, with regard to the stamp tax and the income tax, Internal Peace, and the abolition of likin, the most important question is control of expenditure of funds. We must favour beyond all other things the creation of a National Budget and that it should be impossible to divert funds from one purpose to another. We should insist that the Budget should be provided for public criticism of the items therein.

With regard to this Budget and to the Stamp Tax and Income Tax and the expenditure of our money it should be our determination that before the merchants permit themselves to be taxed another dollar, the Tuchun system should immediately be abolished and a genuine war department organized, which shall exist not for the purpose of destroying our brothers but to protect China against for-

eign foes. Secondly, we must insist upon the disbandment of troops and their re-employment in useful and constructive labour for the country. We must demand that local self-government shall be recognized so that industry and commerce can be improved and we must demand that there shall be no election for parliament until there is internal peace in the land and every province has come to recognize one Central Government.

THE ASYLUM OF SHANGHAI.

It is for these reasons that I propose to you to-day that we shall at this session only work out fundamental principles and that the details involved shall be left to another conference which should meet in Shanghai not later than one month from now and at which all the provinces of China should be represented. At this conference the Commission which we appoint now should be prepared to report on the questions which we submitted to them and the other Provinces should be asked to be prepared to discuss those questions.

For a place for a conference representing the Chambers of Commerce of all the Provinces in China we recommend Shanghai rather than any other city in China, because there is always danger in other places of coercion. Peacefully and quietly we want to express our opinions without fear and without asking favours. We are the representatives of the merchant class. We owe it to those men who are devoting their lives to industry and commerce that our resolutions shall be to their interests and we cannot express our opinions freely, we cannot express our opinions openly in any city where there is possibility of force being used against us. The only city in all of China which is neutral and which is free for such purposes is Shanghai.

SOME time ago at the instance of the Ministry of Communications, a resolution was passed at Cabinet meeting authorizing the installation of an aerial mail service between Peking and Shanghai. In pursuance of this resolution, the aerodromes at Nanyuan and Chingho are making preparations for the opening of the service. Some days ago a number of new aeroplanes ordered from foreign countries were received by the aviation authorities at Nanyuan and Chingho and these planes are being equipped for this purpose. As soon as these planes are ready for use trial trips will be made. The authorities concerned expect to complete all preparations in this connexion and formally open the aerial mail service between Peking and Shanghai next April, if no hitch occurs to their present arrangements. It is also reported that a member of the aviation Bureau, Mr. Wang Yu-wing, will be given the opportunity to make the initial trip to Shanghai.

FAMINE RELIEF WORK

Help From American Newspaper

Mr. Z. Charles Beale, hon. secretary of the "Christian Herald" Famine Relief Fund, writes:—The "Christian Herald" of New York has taken up the famine work in earnest. It has cabled out already to the Hon. Treasurer \$25,000 gold. The members of the Committee live in Honan and are ready to do special work. They are in touch with missionaries who are in active relief work. A special effort will be made to save the women and children. No doubt new orphanages will be opened and orphanages already established will be helped. Any special calls on this line will be considered.

Pres. Wilson's Invitation.

Washington, Dec. 9.

President Wilson has invited a number of prominent Americans to form a committee to obtain funds for the relief of the famine sufferers in China.—Reuter.

Relief Work in Honan

The Shanghai Chinese Foreign Famine Relief Committee submits the following brief statement culled from full reports submitted by the Honan Famine Relief Committee's Treasurer, Rev. G. E. Simmons, Kaifeng, through whom our grants to Honan have gone:—

Previously reported	\$115,259.33
Chi Sheng Hwei, Shanghai	12,477.26
Through Mr. E. W. Fitchford	2,084.00
Fu Chung Corporation	10,000.00
Hankow Famine Relief Committee	7,000.00
Anhui Tungchow Magistrate	1,063.00
Shanghai Honanese	2,014.42
Shanghai C. F. Famine Relief Committee	105,000.00
Other contributions under \$1,000 as detailed in official report	1,163.54
	\$256,066.55

Since this account was made up (December 7, 1920) the Shanghai Chinese Foreign Famine Relief Committee has voted another \$100,000 to the work of this Committee in Honan. It is of interest that Bishop White of the Canadian Church Mission, Kaifengfu, is devoting his whole time to the work of the Honan Committee, and they have outlined plans for efficiently reaching the famine area if enough money comes in to meet the great need.

Tsinanfu University

Tsinanfu, Dec. 8.

The keenness to assist in any way possible in the work of famine relief in North China is strikingly illustrated in the action of the Senate of the Shantung Christian University. By the decision of the Senate the entire University, Schools of Medicine, Arts and Theology, closes its autumn term three weeks earlier than the Uni-

versity calendar's date, closing on December 22 instead of January 12. The Senate hopes that by this action many members of the staff and student body will have an opportunity to assist in the effort being made in North China.—Reuter.

WORLDWIDE FAMINE APPEAL

Relief Funds Totally Insufficient

Peking, Dec. 10.

A meeting of representatives of the famine relief societies in Peking has resolved to send several telegrams to other countries, appealing for funds, and pointing out that, according to the latest information, 15,000,000 of people are threatened with starvation, whereas the funds in sight are only sufficient to save 1,000,000.

Sung Hsiao-lian is forming a relief committee at Harbin, which is sending off 30 car-loads of grain to Tientsin. Chang Wen-sheng reports that 50,000 piculs of rice have been collected at Pengpu and Huaiyin, and are awaiting transport to the famine area.—Reuter.

BRITAIN AND CHINA'S FAMINE

National Appeal for Help

London, Dec. 14.

The organization of a national appeal in aid of the sufferers from the famine in China is making progress. The Lord Mayor will preside at a meeting to be held at the Mansion House on Thursday, when the principle speakers will be Sir John Jordan, Sir Charles Addis and Mr. Alfred Sze, while the organization throughout the country, is under the superintendence of Mr. Donovan, ex-Postmaster of Shanghai, and is receiving warm support from the Foreign Office. It is announced that the Chinese diplomatic and consular staffs in Great Britain are contributing 20 per cent. of their salaries for three months to the famine fund.—Reuter.

THE FAMINE RELIEF LOAN

Terms of the Four Banks

Peking, Dec. 14.

The British, American, French and Japanese Ministers yesterday discussed the proposed famine relief loan, of \$4,000,000 which four banks are willing to advance provided the Inspector General of Customs is authorized to collect the surtax offered as security. The Ministers decided to make inquiries among the diplomatic representatives to ascertain whether the other countries which agreed to the

surtax will make any objection to this proposal.

They also discussed, but without arriving at any decision, whether to ask the Chinese Government to publish the whole dossier relating to the Consortium of which some of the documents have already leaked out.

Finally, in connexion with the proposed intimation to the Chinese Government that the Consortium has now been definitely formed, it was decided to add that the banks concerned have received full details of the matter.—Reuter.

Ministry of Communications Cuts Adrift

From Our Own Correspondent.

Peking, Dec. 8.

The Ministry of Communications, which has done considerably more than any other Government department for famine relief, has found itself in the embarrassing situation of being identified in the public mind with the various famine relief societies and is constantly in receipt of communications complaining about matters in connexion with famine relief for which Mr. Yeh Kung-cho can accept no responsibility.

The Ministry has therefore appointed Mr. Li Chia-luan, Secretary of the Ministry, as the Minister's special representative in matters of famine relief and Mr. Li announces that he will be glad to correspond with persons interested or to discuss personally any question which comes within the legitimate sphere of the Ministry with those needing information or offering suggestions.

THE FAMINE SURTAX

Strong Opposition by Kiangsu Chambers of Commerce

Word has been received in Shanghai to the effect that the Kiangsu United Chambers of Commerce have expressed their disapproval and are bitterly opposing the Famine Surtax which the Peking Government proposes to put into force.

A delegation of eight called upon Mr. Yen, the Provincial Treasurer, and discussed the matter with him at length. Some strong language was used by the visitors expressing distrust in the Government's promise to use the money for relief work in the famine-stricken districts. It was suggested that the merchants should take charge of the work themselves. "We will stand no more new taxation" was the text of a departing threat by the delegation. "To speak frankly, this is because we do not have much faith in the honesty of the Government."

The delegation intimated to Mr. Yen that merchants would not participate in any loan that the Government proposes to float, as it was learned that the Government was trying to get \$4,000,000 from

the provinces, including \$610,000 from Kiangsu.

It was decided that the merchants should raise the amount of the surtax by subscriptions from the merchants and demand that the Government should call off the surtax order.

CHINESE WOMEN'S FAMINE RELIEF ASSOCIATION

In order that the women of this country may do their share in rendering effective and direct aid to the famine regions, more than 100 Chinese ladies met at 111 Bubbling Well Road on Tuesday of last week and on Sunday last, to organize the Women's Famine Relief Association, and to discuss the ways and means for carrying out their work. Madame Sheng Kung-pao, who is well known in Chinese circles for her philanthropic activities, was asked to preside, and the following Committee were elected:—

Hon. Presidents:—Mrs. Hsu Shih Chang, and Mrs. Thomas F. Crane.

President:—Mrs. Sheng Kung-pao.

Vice-Presidents:—Mrs. Sun Pao-chi, Mrs. Chap Ching-hua, and Mrs. Lien Way-ching.

Directors: Mrs. W. W. Yen, Mrs. C. J. Soong, Mrs. K. E. Yang, Mrs. K. F. Shah, Mrs. M. T. Liang, Mrs. E. Y. Sheng, Mrs. C. S. Sheng, Mrs. Y. M. Hsu, Mrs. T. C. Sheng, Mrs. T. M. Hsi, Mrs. T. C. Hsi, and Mrs. M. V. Nien.

Executive Committee: Chairmen, Mrs. H. H. Kung, Mrs. S. J. Wong.

Secretaries: Mrs. P. C. Sheng, Mrs. T. P. Hsi, Miss K. S. Chao, Miss M. L. Soong.

Treasurers: Miss E. Y. Sheng, Miss S. W. Lien, Mrs. E. Y. Sheng, Miss S. W. Chu.

Reception Committee: Mrs. S. J. Wong, Mrs. Henry Sheng.

Business Committee: Mrs. K. S. Sheng, Miss F. Y. Sheng, Miss K. F. Sheng.

Subscription Committee: Mrs. V. K. Ling (chairman), Mrs. S. N. Wu, Mrs. W. C. Chen, Mrs. T. T. Chwang, Mrs. Y. Z. Zau, Mrs. N. D. Lien, Mrs. V. S. Wu, Mrs. Z. K. Li.

The Association plans to look after the women and children of the famine regions, as these are the most helpless, and in numbers they form the majority of the victims. Particular care will be given to nursing mothers, and it is probable that several members will be sent to supervise the distribution of relief. While realizing that other organizations are doing sterling work in the famine districts, members of the Association feel that they have a peculiar field of service of their own, and that there are sources of support to which they can more effectively appeal. In initiating the campaign Mrs. Sheng, the President of the Association, made a preliminary contribution of \$10,000, and it is hoped by the members that with the generous support of the public a large sum will be realized.

Gifts of money and material from sympathizers should be sent to the President Secretary, Miss S. W. Chu, at the headquarters of the Association, No. 111 Bubbling Well Road.

THE MURDER OF KUOH CHUNG-KUANG

An Unequalled Brutality

NEW DETAILS OF KUEICHOW SOLDIERS' CRIME

From Our Own Correspondent.

Kueiyang, Kuei., Nov. 26.

Further news to hand from Anshun contradicts the statement that the manager of the Bank of China there was executed. He managed to escape and those who sought his life were not able to find him. From all quarters we hear stories of civil magistrates vacating their posts and retiring to country districts without warning. Letters and telegrams have reached those in power at present that were intended for others so the senders of the same have decided not to wait the answers before leaving.

As the late Mr. Kuoh Chungkuang, known to all as Kuoh Tze-hua, has many friends in the maritime provinces, I forward the following additional information concerning his sad end. The soldiers tried to gain an entrance to the house by calling out, "Receive a letter," and rapping on the door. As the door was not opened they next fired a number of shots at it, and when it opened the soldiers rushed into the different rooms. They seized and bound Mr. Kuoh after they had had a tussle with his wife who did her best to protect her husband.

When it became evident to the members of the family that the man desired was their father, the son went on his knees before the braves and said: "everything in the house is at your disposal but please do not injure my father." Instead of granting his request they shot him dead in his father's presence. The daughter next advanced and asked them to be lenient to her paternal parent, and to-day she is still suffering from three shot wounds which were the answer she received from them. Before leaving the premises they searched the different rooms and carried off all they wanted, including the jewellery and ornaments of a bride who had just been received into the home. It was said that her father gave her ornaments, etc., worth something like \$2,000, but to-day she is a widow deprived of her adornments.

BESMIRCHING THE DEAD.

The soldiers escorted Mr. Kuoh to the policeman on duty at the corner of the street and asked him to identify him, but the policeman said he did not recognize the man. A passerby told the soldiers that it was, "the old gentleman Kuoh," so they were satisfied that they had seized the right man. At the north gate of the city they called a halt and the old gentleman besought them to grant him an interview before they carried their orders into effect. They sent a man to headquarters to ask if this request might be granted or not, but the man returned in a short space of time to say they knew what they had to do. They peremptorily

ordered Mr. Kuoh to kneel down and after shooting him severed his head from the body. The authorities kept the head for a time, but at the request of two missionaries it was returned to the family.

For upwards of a week the daily papers have been publishing a number of articles to enlighten the public on the doings of the two men who were killed and also those who are "wanted." Some nasty things have been said about those who are now out of power, but the common people treat it as Billings said we should treat Cologne water, viz:—"sniff at it, but not swallow it." Some one has said "when you cannot best your opponent then malign him," and apparently the people in these parts are not ignorant of that method. Of all the articles the one about the late manager of the Bank of China leaves the worst taste in the mouth. They accuse him of having made himself rich at the expense of others, and include his brothers in the accusation.

We hear stories daily of the doings of the troops in other parts and the people are living in dread of the time when the soldiers may revolt. The officials do not help quieten things by the way they go about the city. For instance, the Commissioner for City Defence has been seen riding through the street preceded and followed by soldiers carrying loaded revolvers in their hands, while the major in charge of the bodyguard has about 40 of his men escort him to and fro. It is reported that a detachment of soldiers were escorting silver, ammunition, uniforms, etc., from the capital to Anshun but they have disappeared, and of course the silver and other things with them. Several explanations have been given for their strange disappearance but I think the most feasible one is:—"They wanted the money so they took it and have now retired from soldiering."

A traveller from the northwestern part of the province reports that the Yunnan troops in the vicinity of Pichieh consume about 300 or 400 bushels of rice daily. The quantity of rice produced in those districts is considerably less than that produced in the centre of the province so it is highly probable rice will have to be exported to that region to relieve the strain.

Up to the present Mr. Ren Kotsen has not come to take the position of Civil Governor, but the authorities have discovered that he is at Anshun and have sent a deputation to wait on him and request him to come. It is thought by many that he will refuse.

POPE Benedict XIV has instituted a new Apostolic Vicariate at Fort Bayard in China, which comprises Hainan Island, and also the territory along the Tongking frontier. He has also instituted Apostolic Vicariates at Hanchow, and in Korea, entrusting the latter to the Benedictine Monks. This Vicariate comprises that part of the Seoul Vicariate, which is confined between Northern Manchuria and the Sea of Japan.

CHEFOO NOTES

Successful Production by
A. D. C.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Chefoo, Dec. 6.

The local Amateur Dramatic Club presented to the public on Saturday night the well known play entitled "Cousin Kate." It was somewhat ambitious on the part of our amateurs to attempt a play hitherto given almost exclusively by professionals, and there were quite a number who thought the local A. D. C. was going a little too far in putting forward "Cousin Kate." But the exhibition of acting given in the hall of the Club Annex fully justified the selection by the A. D. C. Unquestionably the great success of the play was due to the fine acting of Mrs. V. R. Eckford, who played Cousin Kate in a way which left nothing to be desired. Mr. L. H. Howell, who is certainly the best amateur actor Chefoo possesses, Mrs. Frank Smith who made her reputation as "Eliza" and Mr. Russel Brown, who impersonated the self opinionated country curate, as though he had actually lived the part.

The hall was packed when the play commenced, and, judging from the manner in which the various parts were applauded the large audience was highly delighted with the work of the seven amateurs who were responsible for the very enjoyable night's entertainment. Mrs. Eckford's interpretation of the name part was extremely clever, and while she was performing, it was difficult to realize that she was an amateur. She threw herself thoroughly into the character she was portraying and played this important part excellently. Her enunciation was extremely lucid, and there was a distinct absence of all nervousness and self-consciousness. Mr. Howell was entrusted with the part of Heath Desmond. The A. D. C. could not have made a happier choice. The part suited Mr. Howell perfectly and he more than justified his selection. In the second scene, where he and Mrs. Eckford occupied the stage for nearly half an hour, the extremely difficult rôles they both played were sustained with marked success. Mr. Howell acting in a manner which left nothing to be desired.

The fussy, tactless and supine Mrs. Spenser was played by Mrs. Frank Smith, who adapted herself capably to the part. Mrs. Smith again demonstrated that the golden opinions she gained when playing "Eliza" were not misplaced, and Chefoo can always count upon her being successful in any performances it desires to put on the stage. Miss Sugden's acting was a great surprise, and she quite captivated her audience by her portrayal of Amy. Mr. Russel Brown, as the country curate, was extremely good. It was his first appearance on the local stage, and Chefootes are already hoping that it will not be his last. Mrs.

Irwine and Mr. Hogg played the minor parts in the same fine way in which the others had performed the major.

To these seven performers is due the gratification of those who were so greatly impressed by the unusual standard of the acting. "Cousin Kate" will long be remembered as having created yet another record in local amateur dramatics.

PLAGUE OUTBREAK
AT HAILARPuzzling Features to be
Studied

From a Correspondent.

The few cases of Plague which have recently occurred at Hailar (400 miles west of Harbin) are probably due to importations from Siberia. This year it has been possible to trace bubonic plague to the following places in the Trans-baikal district of Siberia:—

Abagatui (20 miles south of Manchuli), 4 cases in September,
Dauria (30 miles west of Manchuli), 3 cases in September,
Kailasteusky (50 miles north of Manchuli), 8 cases in October.

Curiously, the only case that has been recorded in Manchuli on the Chinese frontier was that of a Cossack who travelled there from Abagatui in time to receive treatment and get well, while his mother and two sisters, who remained behind, all died.

STORY OF THE CASES.

At Hailar, seven suspicious deaths occurred about the middle of October, due to fever, pain in throat, rigor and spots on body. They were those of Chinese coolies who had been engaged in skinning carcases near the Produce Export Works in the town. Their corpses were cremated by the local superintendent of Police, who had received his experience, during the great epidemic of 1911.

On October 22, two Russians (Mrs. Tarelkin, 38, and son aged 9 years) were admitted to the Railway Hospital with signs of bubo in the neck and high fever. Both died the next day. Two days later, a Chinese soldier Chen, aged 24, died in the same compound occupied by the Russians. On November 15 (that is, over three weeks after) two other sons of the Russian woman took ill, the first with no definite swelling and the second with a large bubo in left groin, and were admitted to Hospital. The first boy died on the 17th and the second on November 21. On *post-mortem* examination plague bacilli were found in the blood and organs.

On November 17, a second Chinese soldier Chang, aged 19 years, complained of fever and swelling in left armpit and died two days later.

On November 18, old Tarelkin, the head of the family, 43 years

old, himself became ill with fever and swelling on left groin and was admitted to Hospital. His case was fully studied. The bubo was punctured, the contents showing innumerable plague bacilli, which killed guinea pigs. On November 27, an incision was made over the bubo. At the time of writing, the patient was convalescing, though petechial spots had appeared on his body.

On November 23, a third Chinese soldier Chao, 21 years old, complained of sickness and swelling in left armpit, was admitted to Hospital on the 24th and died the next day.

The three other sons of the Russian as well as the surviving soldiers in the compound were placed in quarantine for ten days.

SURROUNDING FACTS.

It will be observed from the above that eight cases of bubonic plague were actually seen, of whom seven died. In the course of investigations, it was learnt that 21 Chinese soldiers guarding the Hailar Railway bridge from Harbin were quartered in the same compound as the Russian family and that the boys freely went in and out of the rooms. There were two main living blocks, one occupied by the Russian family with seven Chinese soldiers, and the other by ten soldiers. The first batch of soldiers had been sleeping on a wooden *kang* covered with wooden boards, matting and unswept dust, while the second batch had separate iron beds. Plague cases occurred in both. Although it was not possible to catch rats and mice, it was conceivable for the infected fleas to live and breed indefinitely in such surroundings. The sanitary staff, therefore, cleaned out these unhealthy quarters, burnt the matting and disinfected the rooms.

No further cases have been reported in that locality since November 24, but members of the Plague Prevention Staff are searching the city for suspicious ones.

Dr. Wu Lien-teh himself is in charge of operations of the spot and studying some puzzling features of the present outbreak.

Prevention of Dangerous
Thoughts

Tokio, Dec. 11.

The "Jiji" writes: "Two Cantonese teachers at a Chinese school at Yokohama recently attempted to distribute Bolshevik propaganda. One has fled to Shanghai: the arrest of the other in Tokio is expected shortly."—Reuter.

Tokio, Dec. 13.

The Japanese press has been interdicted by the police from publishing any reference to the International Communications Conference in Washington.—Reuter.

HEAVY FIGHTING ON THE TUMEN

Chinese Cooperating Against Koreans

From Rodney Gilbert.

Peking, Dec. 8.

Authentic news of heavy fighting between Japanese and Koreans north of the Tumen River in the Toutaokow district has just reached Peking after a lapse of many days. These reports suggest strongly that the Fengtien troops, acting under Chang Tso-lin's orders, are cooperating with the Japanese in the extermination of the Korean colonists in Manchuria. All available Chinese cavalry forces have been operating in the forests and mountains of Fengtien and Kirin in a systematic "drive" of Korean settlers to the eastward, where the Japanese await them. Recently these tactics resulted in the concentration of 3,000 armed Korean colonists in the Toutaokow neighbourhood and a fight with the Japanese forces of slightly superior numbers ensued. The Koreans having no means of retreat and knowing that surrender meant ruthless massacre fought desperately in several engagements. The result has been an overwhelming defeat for the Japanese, news of which has been carefully suppressed except for one sketchy item in the Liaotung "Daily News." It is said that the Japanese lost 2,000 killed, that one of their regimental commanders was captured and that the Koreans took over 1,000 rifles and a number of machine-guns.

Prior to this engagement the elders of the Korean communities issued strict orders to all Koreans that they were not to come into conflict with Japanese troops because it would inevitably mean the invasion of Chinese territory by the Japanese military. All Koreans who were in a position to fly were instructed to hide in the forests. The cooperation of the Chinese troops with the Japanese has made this impossible and the fighting which has resulted from the Fengtien "drive" is largely the result of the activity of the Chinese soldiery. The position of the bellicose Korean settlers is now desperate. The Japanese can bring in any number of troops from Narami, Huining and other posts and the Koreans can hope for neither reinforcements, refuge nor mercy.

Korean refugees from the Mukden district, driven out by the Chinese, who took refuge in the city of Kirin, have been arrested by the police in large numbers.

Japanese Report of Casualties

Tokio, Dec. 10.

A Seoul despatch states that official reports from the headquarters of the Japanese force which is operating at Chientao against the

Korean malcontents show the following:—

Koreans killed and executed, 375: captured, 177: surrendered, 1,558.

Japanese killed, eleven: wounded 25:

Buildings burned: Korean houses, 193: Korean barracks, thirteen; churches, two schools, five:

Arms captured: Rifles 513: Machine-guns, three: cartridges 42,000.

Two of the churches, it is asserted, were used by the Korean rebels as assembly halls. The schools are claimed to have been giving military instruction to prospective officers of the army to be raised for a campaign against the Japanese.

The above figures are in some cases smaller than those reported by missionaries and the Chinese local authorities.—Reuter.

GUERRILLA WARFARE IN MANCHURIA

Korean Successes

JAPANESE REGIMENT ANNIHILATED

From Rodney Gilbert.

Peking, Dec. 10.

In writing of Korean affairs in Manchuria a few days ago your correspondent summarized an undated letter which gave no dates. Communications have now been received in Peking which confirm the story of fighting between the Korean farmers and students and the Japanese troops but which show that the events narrated took place six weeks ago. Since the Japanese have published little or nothing upon this subject a detailed account of what happened may still be of interest.

On October 15 a Korean force, organized and led by a Mr. Kim Chua-chin and numbering about 600, came together at Wangchinghsien and being forced out by the Chinese troops, moved southward and arrived at Santaokou. There they found that they were within striking distance of a Japanese force made up of one battalion of infantry, two cavalry companies and one company of light artillery. Korean instructions were to avoid the Japanese and find a safe hiding place, but they were attacked by the Japanese and after conferring among themselves decided that they had no opening for retreat and should, therefore, resist. The Japanese made their attack at the village of Chingshanli on October 19, but there was little fighting until the following day at three o'clock in the afternoon. The Koreans had taken cover in the meantime and were well established on high ground and in the forests.

SMALL SUCCESSES AND A REPULSE.

On the morning of November 21 at 9 o'clock 200 Japanese

outposts wandered into a Korean ambush, were fired upon from two points and were annihilated within 20 minutes. A few minutes later the Japanese main body came up and tried to bring machine and mountain guns into play but these weapons were useless in the forest. The Japanese eventually retired leaving the Koreans masters of the field but the latter were too cold and hungry to follow up their victory. They, therefore, went to Erhtaokou during the night.

The Koreans arrived at Wolungkou at 4 o'clock on the morning of November 22 and their scouts found a platoon of Japanese cavalry established in a village. They then discovered that they had run into another Japanese force composed of a battalion of infantry, two cavalry companies, and two artillery companies which were stationed in the village of Yulangchun, five li from their outposts. The Korean commander ordered 150 Korean students to attack the Japanese outposts, while another 150 students were detailed to cut the Japanese off from their reinforcements. The latter group occupied high ground around Yulangchun. The main Korean body then attacked the Japanese encampment. The Japanese outposts were killed in the first rush and the fighting which followed at the main Japanese encampment was very stubborn. The Koreans were nearly surrounded by troops who outnumbered them five to one and were forced to retreat towards Erhtaokou.

JAPANESE WORSTED.

There they again encountered Japanese and fought from 4 till 6 o'clock in the evening. The Koreans were again clever in establishing themselves to advantage and were reinforced by 250 farmers and students under Hong Bum-do and Li Bum-sok. A regiment of Japanese infantry was annihilated and the regimental commander was killed together with a number of other officers. One report says that machine guns were captured, another omits to mention the guns but itemizes the trophies as follows: 50 carbines with 5,000 rounds of ammunition, 700 infantry rifles, 20 horses, 20 sabres, five pairs of field glasses, 20 wrist watches and 6 military maps. Five Koreans were wounded. After this conflict it would appear that the Japanese and Chinese both gave up the conflict and the Koreans retired in peace to a place called Onaue or Omuh-sien, where they have since been resting on their arms. It is estimated that the total number of Koreans who have taken to arms in Kirin and Fengtien since the Japanese invasion is about 3,000. The Chinese troops employed in driving them out of their hiding places also number about 3,000, while it is estimated that the Japanese employed in the work of exterminating the Korean communities number not less than 5,000.

AUSTRALIAN NOTES

Events of a Fortnight—The Annual Carnival—A Matter of Spelling—Queensland and the Liquor Vote—Costly Strikes

From Our Own Correspondent

Melbourne, Nov. 10.

It is impossible with the seat of the Federal Government being even temporarily (for the past 20 years) in Melbourne that the great spring carnival should not have attracted thousands to this metropolis. With a new Governor-General, disposed to the spectacular, still plenty of money, and, on the whole, fine weather, there was little wanting to drag thousands from all parts of Australia to this city. They came accordingly. The hotels were crowded and the lodging houses let three deep, but the Sydney fraternity were not dismayed. They brought over three large steamers, and moored them alongside the Port Melbourne wharves, maintaining them as first-class hotels while the gaiety lasted, and then removing themselves and their lodgings back to Sydney.

Of the horse-racing meetings it is only necessary to say that they attracted record crowds, the water carnival on the narrow stream, known as the Yarra, was (after being postponed for a week on account of an uninvited monsoonal disturbance, which came down from the north) a scene of crowded colour and cheerful irresponsibility. Government House functions were inconveniently patronized as to numbers, and the newspapers denounced the inflated currency, while they boomed the causes of inflation. What more could we ask for? The final touch came when the Governor-General, the very latest and most-up-to-date importation from Great Britain, developed what we all hope will prove no worse than a mild attack of diphtheria. And there the matter now stands.

There was one slight *contretemps* on Cup Day. As nearly everyone went to the great social function, two brothers—both known criminals—set out to burgle empty houses. Some non-race-going neighbours of one place asked them to explain themselves, and one neighbour was promptly shot dead. This happened before witnesses and in broad daylight. It gave if not the comic at least the melodramatic relief to the general gaiety. The criminals bolted out of the city, but were run to earth within a few hours. They did not even put up a fight, but surrendered to a country policeman and an armed civilian. Even the most humanitarian of those who will by-and-bye plead for their lives will not contend that they were heroes.

THE EBB OF EXTREMISM.

It is by no means easy to say whether appearances point to the ebb of the tide of extremism, or whether recent events merely point to a temporary set-back of those who are everlastingly seeking to create revolutionary trouble. The

great body of the inland workers is controlled by the heads of the Australian Workers' Union, and not only have these heads denounced the methods of the Industrial Workers of the World, *et hoc genus omne*, but have even put their authority very much to the test.

On a general referendum of members as to whether the Union should support arbitration or direct action the former, recommended by the officials, was approved by a comfortable majority. Turning attention nearer to the extremist headquarters—the coastal cities—an attempt has just been made to hang up the loading of oversea ships. The excuse given was that when in 1917 the water-side workers of Sydney refused to abide by their own undertakings, the employers established a special bureau for loading oversea ships. The Bureau has worked excellently for several years, but needless to say its members owe no allegiance to the authority of the Trade Hall Council. A demand was made that the Bureau should be closed, and practically that a couple of thousand loyal workers should, in the words of one employer, be thrown to the wolves. There being no hope of success if Sydney water-side men took action alone, it was decided to call upon the Melbourne and Brisbane men to take action in sympathy. Votes had to be taken, and so far, as even the union officials will admit, there were found a five to one majority in Melbourne and a two to one in Brisbane against being involved in the Sydney dispute.

One can realize the hesitation about entering upon more water-side trouble when he reads the latest official figures which show that in 1919 in the shipping industry alone there were 41 disputes, involving 33,000 men, and causing a loss of 2,271,000 working days and over £1,000,000 in wages. The strike at Broken Hill, which has lasted about 18 months, is practically over. An award has been given which the men declare unsatisfactory, but they are clinging with some persistency to the fact that about 200 tuberculous miners—out of 5,000—are to be pensioned off. For the hot-heads this is a poor result, for with them, the weak, the old and infirm are the last persons to be considered. There is still some noisy talk of industrial upheavals, but one thinks—though perhaps the wish is father to the thought—that as prices are showing a tendency to fall, and employment to be scarcer, the value of the agitator's stock will be included in the general slump.

McSWEENEY OR McSWINEY.

It is difficult to make a martyr of a man whose name may be spelt by leading newspapers—and in all

seriousness—as between the two above variations. After having defeated Tanner, the Italian fasting expert, and Sylvia Pankhurst, by days, weeks and possible a month, it is not easy to understand why Australia should join in denouncing the murder of this gentleman by England. A fervid Irish patriot, who has the honour to boast that he and Michael Davitt shared Kilmainham gaol at the same time—with others one may presume—brought the matter up in the House of Representatives. The member, Mr. Mahon, is an examiner, and of him Archbishop Mannix once declared that he had despatched him from his palace doorstep with an episcopal flea in his ear.

Mr. Mahon adopted the attitude of that typical Irishman who invited all and sundry to tread on the tail of his coat. "Don't," he shouted, "dare to tell me that McSweeney committed suicide," and at once he was accommodated. The attitude of the Representatives was much that of a committee of detached alienists, and when the House got tired the question was put and Mr. Mahon's motion defeated by a two or more to one majority.

This preliminary step towards canonizing the self-destructed Mayor of Cork, was followed by a mass gathering on Sunday in a Melbourne suburb, notorious if not popular on account of violent anti-English and pro-Mannix meetings. There were but 5,000 persons at the best estimate present. Mr. Mahon, and a bishop and a reverend father allowed themselves considerable latitude. Between them Empire was much accursed, the police in Ireland were spies and murderers, and it was hoped the corpses of those murdered by Sinn Feiners would not be allowed to remain in Ireland but be shipped away, lest in their putridity they defile the beautiful atmosphere which hangs around the Emerald Isle. There is some evidence that the fate of McSweeney or McSwiney had really very little to do with the quite ignoble demonstration.

Mr. Tudor, the non-conformist leader of the Labour party, has to be thrown out to make room for Mr. T. J. Ryan, ex-Premier of Queensland, and now deputy leader of the parliamentary Labour party. Mr. Tudor appears to have attended this last demonstration, said his bit, and retired from the scene before the final assault in the form of a ferocious resolution favouring an Australian republic was presented to the select gathering for adoption. Mr. Tudor is doomed, "led about by his bitterest enemies like a little dog on a string," to quote the chief Australian daily paper, and the only thing that keeps him as parliamentary leader is the fact that there are more non-conformist than Sinn Fein members in the present parliamentary Labour party. With the disappearance of Mr. Tudor will also go quite a considerable section of what is left of

the Australian Labour party, and Sinn Fein, Bolshevism and Anarchy will unashamedly take the positions which hitherto they have allotted to their moderate puppets.

QUEENSLAND LIQUOR VOTE.

The liquor prohibition poll which took place in the State of Queensland nearly a fortnight ago differed in some respects from that taken in Victoria, of which the results have already been given. In Victoria voting was by licensing districts, so that if it so desired the veriest hamlet or village could go dry, even if all the rest of the community remained unregenerate. Whether or not it would remain dry in the circumstances is open to question. In Queensland the vote was taken for the whole State as a single electorate, and the issues placed before the people were:—Continuance, Prohibition or State Control. Before the result could be announced one of the three had to secure an absolute majority of the votes cast, and this was accomplished by the use of the preferential or contingent voting system. In the result Continuance came an easy first, Prohibition about 20,000 votes behind, and State Control an unimportant third.

The last votes have not yet been distributed according to their preferences, but the resultant victory for continuance is beyond all doubt. The prohibitionists in Queensland, as in Victoria, declare that they have won a moral victory. That may be so. The most striking feature of the campaign lies in the fact that (as counted up to the present) 233,000 votes have been cast either for continuance or prohibition, but only 25,500 for State control—and this in a State where, if we believe the composition of the local parliament, the people are enthusiastic admirers of State socialism.

Queensland already possesses State cattle stations, meatworks, butcher's shops, arsenic mine, coal mine, and other ventures, few if any of which are honestly earning interest on capital. The Government responsible for these enterprises has just been returned to power, for the third time; yet, when an opportunity is offered the people to take over the highly profitable liquor trade, within the scope of which are the strongest combines and the most dangerous political forces, they turn down the proposition point-black.

THE NEW MIKADO.

In using the above caption I have no wish to hurt the feelings of the sons of Nippon. I do not even err with excellent intentions as did a Melbourne band or orchestra on a famous occasion, when it welcomed distinguished Japanese visitors with an air from Gilbert and Sullivan's opera under the impression that it was playing the Japanese national anthem. I use the word "Mikado" in the fullest Gilbertian sense—the sense of the third trombone in a German band, and the splendid voracity for office of one Pooh Bah. A new Mikado might

well be written round the events of the Northern Territory of Australia.

I have reported some incidents from time to time. We have seen how the local Greeks, Russians and other White Australians formed a Soviet of their own, and told three leading officials that if they did not quit there would be much trouble. They quit. Since then the Commonwealth Government has been asking them to resign the jobs which they have not held, and pending their resignations has been handing them their salaries regularly. For nearly 12 months the officials have held down their salaries, if not their jobs, and now a callous Government has gazetted them out of their positions without giving them any compensation. Then the Soviets, their everyday earnings having ceased with the closing down of the big meatworks, at which they would not work for more than a few hours at a time, have secured free steamer passages away from the scene of their activities, and the Russians have been most indignant because other places, such as Hongkong, Singapore and Vladivostok do not want them. For this they blame the Commonwealth government, which before they defied and then of which they begged. There being very few people in the capital of the Territory—the one-horse, semi-Chinese collection of tin shanties called Darwin—it was not necessary to again appoint a lot of officials, but there were many positions to be held. To save expense one man would be appointed to several jobs, which was right enough if there had not been a lawyer in the place. Thus the police magistrate recently decided something, and the lawyer gave notice of appeal. In his capacity of judge the same official has heard an appeal from his decision as a magistrate and has granted it.

There is to be a further appeal to the High Court, but there is one thing perfectly clear and that is that Hogan, the man, is right, whichever way it goes. Whether

Hogan, the magistrate, or Hogan, the judge, is correct seems to matter little to anybody except the litigants, who may easily be ruined if they have to transport their legal squabble from Darwin 2,000 miles to Sydney or Melbourne. Assuredly if some one will find a new Gilbert, Australia can supply the material for a new Mikado.

INDUSTRIAL TROUBLES.

An official statement by the Commonwealth Statistician can be condensed into a startling record of our industrial troubles in Australia during the last three years, thus:—

Working days idle.		
Wages lost.		
No.	£	
1917	4,599,658	2,594,806
1918	580,853	372,334
1919	5,652,726	3,492,936
10,833,237 £8,460,078		

The comparative peace of the year 1918 is attributable largely to the exhaustion caused by the strikes of the previous year. The greater losses of last year may possibly account for the fact that during 1920 there seem to have been more threats than actual accomplishment of industrial troubles. The greater part of the troubles this year have been felt in Victoria, where there have been acute sugar, coal, and other requirements which the State does not produce, and of which the stocks were exhausted by the maritime strikes of 1919. While the wages lost in the three years are put down at six and a half millions, this does not tell the whole story. Wages represent 18 per cent. of the value of production in our factories, and on that basis while the workers lost six and a half millions the community was the poorer by £29,500,000, besides the lost wages.

THE death took place at Yokohama on the 2nd instant of Captain Walter Edward Pyne in his 79th year. Captain Pyne was for many years in the service of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

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OUR CANADIAN LETTER

A Disappointed Public—The Truth About Wheat—Canada and Prohibition—Chinese Labour Question

From Our Own Correspondent

Kingston, Ont., Oct. 30.

Sugar has occasioned a commotion from one end of Canada to the other during the past month, and it has not actually ceased at the time of writing. Before the war sugar could be bought for five cents a pound; the price has gradually increased until it rose to 25 cents a pound, and in some few parts of the country to even more. Recently its price dropped to about 15 cents in the United States, and the public here anticipated that there would be a considerable drop in the price. Prices, however, to some extent were settled by the Board of Commerce, a body formed by the Government primarily to reduce the high cost of living by preventing monopolies, the imposition of excessive profits, and to advise proceedings against those who would not obey its orders.

Great, therefore, was the outcry throughout the land when the Board ordered that the price of sugar should be 21 cents till the end of the year. Ottawa was deluged with protests, and the consequence was that the Government rescinded the order, the Board resigned, and sugar dropped to 18 cents a pound. The sugar refiners entered their protest against the rescinding of the order on the grounds that the Board has prevented their raising their prices when they were less than those in the States, that they had been promised protection by the Board should sugar prices fall in the States, that they had large supplies of raw material bought at top prices, that if the order did not stand they would lose millions of dollars, which would probably ruin them, and lead to the closing down of the refineries. The Government replied that before it would take any steps to aid them the books of the refiners would have to be examined by chartered accountants to arrive at what the profits had been for the past few years. This the refiners agreed to, but wanted to know how the profits would be arrived at. One of them stated that his concern had made a profit of several millions by a transaction in sugar which did not directly come within the actual operations of the refinery.

THE CAT OUT OF THE BAG.

This statement would appear to have rather given the refiners' case away, as it seemed to confirm the strong opinion held by the public, and certainly proved, at least in the case of Cuba, that speculation had been answerable to a very large extent for the high prices which the public had been compelled to pay. A particular reason, in addition to the general feeling regarding profiteering, why the public was so upset at the Board's order was that it was given about "preserving time," that is, the time when fruit is plentiful, and vast

stores of "preserves" are made by probably every family in Canada, and put away for winter and spring consumption. Preserves would be better known as "stewed fruit" to English people, and they can be said to take the place of jam to a great extent as used in Great Britain.

So far as it can be judged at the moment there is not very much likelihood of the Government going to the assistance of the refiners, and it does not look as if they would be ruined, as the shares of sugar companies have not had the same phenomenal drop as they had rise, which in the case of one was from \$40 to \$140.

THE PRICES OF GRAIN.

The Government has refused to continue the operations of the Wheat Board, and this can be taken as an indication that they will not be in a hurry to help the refiners. The Wheat Board was formed to control the country's sale of this grain when the Governments of other countries were practically the buyers, and at a time when Canada was establishing credits with other countries so that they could purchase this country's wheat. The wheat growers are asking practically that the Government shall keep up the price of wheat to the high one of the past year or so. They claim that Great Britain and other countries are working together to get the wheat at the lowest possible prices, and that the Government should act to get the best possible price.

Sir George Foster, the Minister of Trade and Commerce, has told them that the Board will be put to work again should it become necessary, but that the law of supply and demand has in reality everything to do with the basic determination of the world price for wheat; circumstances of transport by sea and land, financial and exchange conditions, and methods of buying may temporarily affect and vary the price, but the determining factor is the relation of the supply to the demand.

As a report has appeared in Canada that China is exporting wheat, it may be of importance to give one or two other statements made by the Minister. He said that neither Canada nor the United States is giving Governmental credits to European countries to enable them to supply wheat to their people; there is no concerted or pool buying by purchasing nations, each one of the European countries is buying independently of the other and making its own arrangements as to purchase and payment through normal agencies of purchase and sale; there is no longer Government control in the United States and Canadian wheat may be freely sent to that country; last year's concerted Government buying closed

exchanges and virtually prohibited individual buying; and with the United States market open, if the Canadian market were under control the tendency would be to freer purchasing in the American market by other countries, and the consequent stopping of the Canadian wheat movement.

It can hardly be wondered at that the wheat growers would like the Government to keep up the prices as it is stated that with wheat dropping to \$2 a bushel they stand on a 200,000,000 bushel crop to lose \$150,000,000. What effect the absence of Government control will have upon the price of bread here cannot be said at present, but it may be said that a loaf of bread which used to cost five cents, now costs 14.

DEFENCE OF THE LAW.

Prohibition must be mentioned as it has entered into a particularly interesting phase. British Columbia has voted against it, while Nova Scotia, Alberta, Manitoba and Saskatchewan have voted against the importation of liquor, which may mean that they will be "bone-dry." It is to be noticed, however, that generally speaking in these four Provinces the votes cast in favour of Prohibition show a big reduction over those when voting took place before on the subject, and that the cities as a rule voted "wet" and the rural districts "dry." This would show that public opinion is still greatly divided on the matter, and it remains to be seen whether these four Provinces will be made absolutely dry by their Governments. Their new laws will have to be passed by their legislatures, and already demands are being made that before they are passed they shall be submitted to the people to vote on.

But as pointed out in my last letter the greatest evil which the present Temperance Acts has brought about is the enormous and increasing defiance of the law. It was this which anti-Prohibitionists dreaded, and not merely as regards the liquor laws, but leading to defiance of all laws. It is being found impossible here, as it is in the States, to enforce Prohibition. Smuggling, robbery of bond houses and of private houses, illicit stills, are going on at a prodigious rate in both countries. But the weak part so far as Canada is concerned with regard to enforcing Prohibition is that at all events British Columbia and Quebec will not be dry, while in those Provinces which may be, there will have to be provision made for the sale of liquor for medicinal, sacramental and industrial purposes. Thus there will always be the opportunity open for continued lawlessness in the obtaining of drink, coupled with the huge sums which the lawbreakers make. It can be said that public opinion is increasing in favour of Government control of the liquor trade and a system somewhat after the Stockholm System, introduced into Sweden by Dr. Bratt, which allows people to obtain a reasonable amount of liquor on a kind of ticket system managed by the Government. Next April the "ban-

ner" Province of Ontario has to vote again on Prohibition and it would not be surprising to see opposition to it shown, and this system favoured, though there are prophets declaring that this will not be so.

CHINESE LABOUR AGAIN.

In view of the facts that Canadians object to doing the rough work in construction, usually spoken of by British people as "navvies' work" that is the digging for railway lines and so on, and that the European immigration of the men who formerly did this is not favoured here, the suggestion has been heard that thousands of Chinese coolies should be imported into Canada to meet the requirements. At a meeting of a certain Club in Montreal recently the suggestion was approved by 111 against five. It is instructive to notice that the debate was introduced by the Mayor of Astoria, a recent candidate for the Governorship of the State of Oregon, who has been urging the importation of Chinese into the United States for agricultural work, for railroad construction and other constructive operations. How far he represents public opinion in Canada is certainly not represented by the voters at the club mentioned.

It is not that Canadians outside British Columbia object to Chinese as individuals as they make quiet, hardworking citizens, but they do not want any more racial divisions than there are at present. As it is there are enough Orientals on the Pacific side of Canada and the States to produce a population of over 2,000,000 in less than a century at the present rate of increase. The general opinion here is well represented by the conclusion of an editorial in "The Toronto Globe" as follows: "The point is that the Oriental and the Occidental differ not only in the colour of their skins, which is perhaps a matter of no great importance, but in their entire outlook upon life. To mix them does not improve the race. To create conditions under which they would live in the same communities, without a common social life, and the inter-marriage which becomes inevitable under such circumstances, would make a second "South" on the Pacific slope. A white and black America is bad enough; a white, black, and yellow would be impossible."

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50 YEARS
all Chemists and
the Country.
IMITATIONS.

CURE FOR ASTHMA

OUR SCOTTISH LETTER

During the Strike—All Quiet on the Coalfields—Sport's Benign Influence—Free Passages to Russia for Agitators

From Our Own Correspondent

Edinburgh, Oct. 27.

A trip through the principal Scottish mining districts suggests a peaceful and contented countryside rather than a section of the great British coalfield which is the stage for one of the most momentous industrial strifes in our history. Men and women and children are harvesting the potato crop on their allotments; youths are cycling along the country roads—every young miner seems to possess a cycle; quoiters are throwing the disc at the pin in the middle of the patch of clay. These quiet and happy scenes have their counterpart in the streets of the mining towns. They are thronged with "bien-looking" folk, cheerful and orderly. The spectre of coming want and trouble may be at the back of their minds, at present it certainly does not depress them. It is a strange sight, and somehow leaves an impression on the visitor that however black the present may be, the future is not without its ray of hope.

PLAY AT THE PITS.

Sport and games are in evidence in every "colliers' raw" of the Scottish Black Country. With pardonable error a stranger would be under the impression that it was the holiday season. In the byways and lanes groups of pale-faced men sit on their "hunkers" and play cards, with circles of eager lookers-on and backers, for the miner dearly loves a "flutter." Little crowds gather round the men who possess racing whippets, and if there is a bit of smooth grassland there is sure to be a trial or a match, to the accompaniment of much shouting of men and yelping of dogs. And everywhere the soccer ball flies hither and thither; if a "leather" is not available there is always a tin that can substitute, for the lads must have something at their foot, something than can be kicked.

THE AGITATORS' OPPORTUNITY.

This inclination for sport and games is all for good on the part of the younger men. It keeps them out of mischief. And the possibilities of mischief are never far distant. The agitators of our cities, who hold forth on Glasgow Green or the Mound of Edinburgh, have all left for the mining centres, men of many shades and stripes, Socialists, Communists, Bolsheviks. During the tense period that preceded the strike they were busy preaching the beauty and justice of Direct Action. Now that the miners are called out and the pits closed, a more fiery tone is taken, and only a thin curtain of words separates the gospel of Reform and the proclamation of the Red Revolution.

YOUNG MINERS AND INCOME-TAX.

The young miner is the most difficult problem in the coalfields of Scotland. Curiously enough, his greatest grievance is his liability to pay the income-tax. I referred to this matter in a previous letter, but it should again be noted it is a factor in considering the datum line and the coal output. Men of mature years, who observe what is going on around them in the pits, tell me that the young miner, when he has filled a hutch or two, will stop work and say: "I'm not going to work any more to make money for the Government: they'll get no income-tax from me." In fact, they study to do just sufficient work to earn the minimum wage, to provide for their own maintenance and enjoyment, and to leave the smallest taxable surplus. It is suggested by those who know the miners that what these unmarried men object to is paying a lump sum each quarter, and they would probably make no trouble about it if the income-tax could by any means be deducted from their weekly or fortnightly pay. The older miners, however, freely admit that the chief cause of slacking among the younger men is that they can make a wage which for their purposes is quite ample without giving a fair return of production. The miners who are really anxious to obtain better production feel that with young, able-bodied fellows slacking at their side the efforts for the improvement of the output cannot prove of much avail.

PIOUS RAIDERS.

I hear that the Lord Advocate and the members of the Board of Agriculture who visited Lewis to make inquiries about the land raids in the island had a rather strange experience. Their first visit, of which no notice had been given, was to a land-raider's house. They found the raider and his wife and bairns on their knees engaged in family worship, and they bared their heads at the open door and waited till the Gaelic prayer was ended.

EX-GERMAN LINERS FOR ANCHOR LINE.

The Anchor Line, Henderson Brothers, have purchased from the Ministry of Shipping the ex-German twin-screw passenger ships Kigoma and Ypiranga. The Kigoma, built in 1914, is a vessel of 8,156 tons gross; and the Ypiranga, built in 1908, is 8,103 tons gross. They are intended for the Company's service between Liverpool and Bombay, and will be re-named Abyssinia and Assyria.

FORTHCOMING WEDDING.

The engagement is announced of John Buchanan-Jardine, only son

of Sir Robert and Lady Mary Buchanan-Jardine of Castle-Milk, Lockerie, to Jean, the younger daughter of Lord and Lady Hamilton. Mr. Buchanan-Jardine, who will not be 21 till next March, is the heir to great riches made in the China trading firm of Jardine, Matheson & Co.

The late Baronet left nearly two millions sterling in 1905, and the present holder of the title is a sportsman well known on the turf. The bridegroom is familiarly called by a name which generation ago would have been impossible in his class,—the name of "Jock." There are already several aristocrats who rejoice in being "Jocks,"—one of the "aftermaths of the war,"—and it looks as if it will be as catching as "Jean" has been among the ladies.

INDIAN AND HIGHLAND SOLDIERS.

An important addition has been made to the clan shields and emblematic windows in the Highlanders' Memorial Church in Glasgow. It takes the form of an "Indian Window," presented by the late Sir Shapurji Bharucha, Bombay, and is intended to commemorate the men of the Indian and Highland regiments who, as comrades in a great cause, fell in the late war. It had been arranged that Mr. Bonar Law should unveil the window, but he was detained in London by the coal strike, and the ceremony was performed by the Very Rev. Principal Mackichan, of Bombay.

BOLSHEVIST AND UNEMPLOYMENT.

John Maclean, the Bolshevik Consul in Glasgow, made two quaint proposals to the Glasgow Town Council as to the treatment of the local unemployed. The first was that, having regard to the possibility of the winter being severe, the "out of works" should be given the use of a hall, presumably in order that John might have a suitable place for his orations. The second was still more original: it was that those who failed to obtain employment should be given free passages to Russia.

A much better idea would be to provide free passage to Russia for those who are employed in stirring up social and industrial strikes in our midst, promoting strikers, and fomenting exclusive class feeling, to the infinite detriment of the community.

HILL 60.

Disturbing rumours were abroad as to Hill 60 and a proposal to build a hotel on the old battle ground. Mr. J. J. Calder, of Ardargie, Kinross-shire, now states that he stepped in to purchase the land because he saw it was for sale and it was necessary to take prompt action. He has secured it, he adds, in order to present it to the regiments who fought on the hill, and as a memorial to the men who lost their lives. Mr. Calder was formerly Provost of Alloa, is

brewing firm of James Calder & Co., and is also managing director of Alsopp's.

THE SEIDLITZ POWDER ELECTION.

In those cities and burghs where the polling for Town Councillors and the plebiscite under the Local Option Act takes place on the same day and in the same booth, each voter will receive two voting papers, and in order to prevent confusion one paper will be coloured white and the other blue. Hence the popular name of "the Seidlitz powder election."

TEACHING SCOTLAND.

According to the American food experts, the Scots overcook their porridge, with the result that the meal suffers loss of certain nutritive qualities. Which reminds one of the adage about teaching one's grandmother.

NOT SUITED.

This is a tale of the Glasgow Bach choir. Bach's choral works, as the reader knows, are of a distinct type, specially fitted for rendition in a cathedral atmosphere. A lady aspirant for a prominent place in the choir found them somewhat disappointing. "Do you ever sing anything but this holy stuff?" was her irreverent query of a neighbour. The reply was to the effect that Bach being Bach had to be taken for what he was. "Do you ever have a dance?" was the next question. "Well, no, but we sometimes have a social evening." The young lady took stock of the male chorus, her lip curled perceptibly. "Is they the men?" she asked. On learning that

there were no others she sighed—and departed never to return.

A POET'S PROPHECY.

Shall workmen just repeat the sin of Kings and conquerors?

As the nations cease from battle, shall the classes raise the fray.

And scatter wanton sorrow for a shilling more a day?—The late Dr. C. Smith.

THREE German liners, the Cap Finisterro, Kleist, and one other whose name is not at present known, will leave Europe shortly for Japan, to whom they have been allotted under the peace treaty.

MR. C. A. PURINGTON, mechanical mining engineer, arrived in Shanghai a few days ago from the far north. Mr. Purington is connected with a French syndicate, which is exploring and mining in the north, and he comes direct from this syndicate's gold mining properties on the north shore of the Okhotsk Sea. During the course of the summer Mr. Purington and his assistant, Mr. D. A. Holmes, were shipwrecked on Saghalien Island, while en route from Hakodate, Japan. They found this to be a most interesting country, rich in minerals, and game. "There is so much bear in that country," Mr. Purington says, "that killing one is like going out to kill a cow. Reindeer are tamed for sledge pulling and sportsmen have to be careful to distinguish well from tame deer, as there is a heavy fine for killing the latter. It is a magnificent wild sheep country." Mr. Purington sails by the Blue Funnel str. Agapenor this morning for London via Suez.

The Negative FLAG

of the Naval Code.

—Say "NO" when offered IMITATIONS of LEA & PERRINS' Sauce.



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To distinguish the original and genuine Worcestershire Sauce from the many imitations, see that the signature of LEA & PERRINS appears in *White* across the *Red* label on every Bottle.



SHANGHAI NEWS

LADY LAWYER FOR
SHANGHAIFirst Woman to Practise
in Shanghai

Lieutenant Commander C. McCauley, captain of the U.S. gunboat Elcano, arrived in Shanghai last week for court-martial duty. He is accompanied by his wife, who is a lawyer and was sworn in at the U. S. Court on Saturday, this giving her the distinction of being the first woman lawyer admitted to practise in Shanghai.

Mrs. McCauley, who was Helen Leary before she was married, was born on a big Texas cattle ranch in the Panhandle and until she came to China, she says, she has never been without a horse for a day in her life. She graduated from the law department of Texas University in Austin, in 1919, and since that time she has been doing volunteer work for the Associated Charities in a Free Legal Aid Department, which is one of the most effective and basically helpful lines along which constructive work is now being done.

Some of the legal matters attended to by this department are the enforcement of labour laws limiting the hours of women and girls' work; seeing that the work is done under healthful conditions; the adoption of children; provision for taking children legally away from parents unfit to raise them; the protection of ignorant poor people from loan sharks such as instalment paying furniture, houses, etc.; making men work for the support of their families and turn their salaries over for this purpose. Mrs. McCauley wants to become acquainted with Chinese affairs and she hopes to be able to do some interesting work here. Capt. and Mrs. McCauley are, at present living at the Astor House. The Captain is to be transferred to the U. S. S. New Orleans and as that boat is to remain in Shanghai more or less permanently, they will be here for some time.

Admiral Morgan Entertained

Admiral C. B. Morgan was guest of honour at a dinner party and dance given by Commander E. H. Cope of the U. S. Navy, at the Astor House on Saturday night.

The other guests were Lieutenant Commander and Mrs. J. F. Caldwell, Lieutenant Commander and Mrs. Frederick Ceres, Mr. and Mrs. E. L. McCloskey, Mr. and Mrs. E. M. Penn, Miss Martha Duke, and Miss Gretchen Fitkin.

Admiral Morgan left by the U. S. S. Rizal for Manila on Wednesday.

OBITUARY

Mrs. W. M. Upcraft

The death took place on Saturday morning at the Chinese Red Cross Hospital, Siccawei Road, of Mrs. Emma Inveen Upcraft, who for the past 40 years has been connected with the American Baptist Foreign Missionary Society as a worker.

Mrs. Upcraft, who was taken suddenly ill, was brought to Shanghai from Szechuan, where she has been engaged in mission work for about 30 years, for treatment. Every attention was given her but all the efforts of the doctors were without success, and Mrs. Upcraft passed away at the ripe age of 62 years.

The deceased lady was assigned to Ningpo upon her arrival in China and remained there for 10 years when she was transferred to Szechuan where she has since been stationed. She devoted most of her time to the education and uplift of the Chinese women, and to evangelistic endeavours. She was a great traveller and was very well-known among missionaries in many parts of this country.

Her many friends will regret to learn of Mrs. Upcraft's death and will extend their sympathy to her sister, Miss Beulah Basset, also a missionary in Szechuan, who is at present on furlough in America. Her husband, the Rev. W. M. Upcraft, died in Yunnanfu, eight years ago.

More than 100 Chinese residents of Seattle left for China on the British str. Tyndareus, the largest number leaving Seattle on one vessel in the last several years. The movement of Chinese to the Orient has been particularly heavy recently. Many of them are returning to celebrate the Chinese New Year.

Miss Helen Ferris of San Diego, California, and Miss Jean M. Kerk of Denver, Colorado, arrived on Thursday morning on the N. Y.K. Katori Maru, the former to replace Miss Margaret Black as secretary to the Rev. Paul C. Hutchinson of the China Centenary Movement of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and the latter to handle book-keeping and lantern-slide work in connexion with the same work. Miss Margaret Black was married last evening at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Sheldon on Dixwell Road to Mr. Guy Holman of the International Banking Corporation, the Rev. Paul C. Hutchinson officiating. A dinner was given in their honour on Wednesday night by Mr. and Mrs. Hutchinson at Sincere's Oriental restaurant, the guests being Miss Black's office associates. The married couple will make their home at 14 Rue Chapal after their return from a rather extended trip they have planned as honeymoon.

WEDDING

Larsen—Joffe

The wedding took place at noon last Friday at the U. S. Consulate-General, of Miss Leonora Joffe, third daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L. B. Joffe, of Kimberley, South Africa, and niece of Mrs. E. Widler, of Shanghai, to Mr. E. Larsen, of the Chinese Postal Service, second son of Professor and Mrs. W. F. Larsen, of Chicago, the ceremony being performed by the Rev. G. A. Fitch, in the presence of Mr. M. F. Perkins, Acting Consul-General, Mr. W. A. Roberts, of the Chinese Maritime Customs, acting as sponsor for the bride and bridegroom.

The bride wore a very pretty dress of white satin, trimmed with silk net and beautiful hand-made embroidery, and a toque of white chiffon, and velvet, finished with curled white feathers.

In the afternoon a reception was held at the residence of the bride's aunt, Mrs. Widler, at No. 169 Bubbling Well Road, where many friends gathered to offer congratulations. There was a large number of handsome silver and cut glass presents from the many friends of the couple. The bridegroom's gift to the bride was a very pretty gold chain necklace with jade pendant, that of the bride to the bridegroom being a pair of silver-backed brushes, of dragon design.

The honeymoon will be spent in Foochow, to which port Mr. Larsen has been transferred on service.

Rise in Petrol Prices

There are prospects that petrol will soon cost the motor driver dear. We are informed that the Standard Oil Co., of New York, have notified the local garages that, owing to the drop in exchange, their prices for petrol will be increased by between 25 and 30 per cent.

The Asiatic Petroleum Co., Ltd. have not announced an increase and state that they have no immediate intention of doing so.

An action was brought in H. M. Supreme Court on Thursday morning, before his Honour Judge Skinner Turner, on behalf of the Navy League, Sir Everard Fraser (H. M. Consul-General) and Mr. A. Brooke Smith (Chairman of the Municipal Council) applying as against Mr. A. L. Anderson for the declaration of a right of way in respect of B. C. lot 4850 over B.C. lots 8524 and 8571, registered in the name of the defendant, in Siccawei Road and Great Western Road and for a perpetual injunction to restrain defendant or his agents from obstructing the free use of such right of way and to remove obstacles placed there. Pleadings were ordered. Mr. D. McNeill represented the defendant and Mr. R. E. Gregson appeared for the plaintiffs.

LAUNCHING OF THE CHIANGLUNG

New Tender for Lower Yangtze Lights

The new Customs Yangtze Lights-tender Chianglung was successfully launched from the works of the New Engineering and Shipbuilding Works, Ltd., on Tuesday afternoon, in the presence of a number of guests. Mrs. H. E. Hillman performed the ceremony and as she broke the usual bottle of champagne, an electric button was pressed and the vessel sped very gracefully down into the water amidst loud cheers.

THE VESSEL DESCRIBED.

The Chianglung is a twin screw steel vessel specially designed and equipped for service as a lights-tender for the Lower Yangtze and is of the following dimensions and description:—

Length overall	... 126½ ft.
Moulded breadth	... 21 "
Moulded depth	... 10½ "
Draft	... 6 "

The propelling machinery consists of two triple expansion engines capable of driving the vessel at a speed of 11 knots.

The vessel is supplied with a specially built motor sampan to be used in sounding channels and also an ordinary sampan for general use as it has been found by experience that the native type of boat is most suitable for the Yangtze.

She presents a handsome and workmanlike appearance, and reflects great credit on the builders.

FOR THE LOWER YANGTZE.

The Chianglung has been built as an addition to the existing launches used for the tending of Lower Yangtze Lights, for the purpose of surveying on the river, and to enable the Customs to keep up with the increased demand for improved conditions on the Lower Yangtze.

The Middle Yangtze between Hankow and Ichang is now about to be brought under the control of the Customs, and a district river inspector and launch officer have been appointed. A new steel twin screw lights-tender is at present under construction by Messrs. Yarrow & Co. for this section of the river, and it is hoped she will be in commission before the coming spring. This vessel, which is of specially light draft and fitted with the celebrated Yarrow water tube boiler, is 90 ft. in length, beam 16 ft. and with a loaded draft of only 3 ft. Her speed will be 9½ knots, and she can carry sufficient coal to steam a distance of 400 knots without re-bunkering. Like the Chianglung she is specially equipped for the work of lights tending, sounding channels, and surveying, and is fitted throughout in the most up-to-date style.

Following the ceremony there was a reception at which refreshments were served. Mr. A. W. Brankston,

SHOT BY A FRIEND

Warder Jackson's Accidental Death

The sad story of the death of Mr. H. C. Jackson, a warder at the Shanghai Municipal Gaol, was told at an inquest held by H. M. Consul at Nanking. The deceased was about 30 years of age, unmarried and had served in the Navy prior to coming to Shanghai.

Evidence was given that the deceased was one of a party who were shooting in the neighbourhood of Nanking. William Charles Grant had loaded his gun and was just about to fire at a bird when he stumbled, the charge was exploded and the contents of the cartridge struck Jackson. A doctor said that death was due to shock consequent on the injuries sustained and a verdict was returned that death was caused by a gunshot wound accidentally inflicted.

The body was brought to Shanghai by train on Tuesday morning, being taken by the Police to the Mortuary, and the funeral took place on Wednesday afternoon.

Fire at Laou Kung Mow Mill

Early last Friday morning, the Fire Brigade received a call to the Laou Kung Mow Cotton Mill, where a quantity of cotton in the mixing room on the first floor was found to be on fire. The automatic sprinklers were checking the fire from spreading, but it had got well into the cotton, and was keeping the mill staff, who were at work with a line of hose, well back.

The place was pretty well filled with smoke, and the firemen, with small lines of hose, spray nozzles, respirators etc., soon had the fire cut off from spreading towards the front, but it was some time before it was finally extinguished. About a quarter of the cotton in the bins at the back had to be removed outside or turned over. At the same time attention was paid to the scutching machines etc., below, which were covered up as much as possible to prevent them from being damaged by water.

A quantity of cotton was destroyed or damaged, but there very little damage done to the building or machinery.

managing director of the Company, proposed a toast to the Chianglung and presented Mrs. Hillman with a diamond and platinum brooch and a beautiful bouquet.

Captain T. J. Eldridge made a brief reply of thanks on behalf of Mrs. Hillman. Brief speeches were also given by Messrs. Mackenzie, Lowder, and Carroll, Mr. Lowder proposing a toast to the company and expressing a hope that bigger ships would be put out within the near future.

SHOOTING AFFAIR IN THE "TRENCHES"

American Resident Seriously Wounded

About midnight on Monday, an American named R. F. Hazelton, a resident of Shanghai, was conveyed to the General Hospital suffering from a revolver wound alleged to have been inflicted by a visitor to the "Eldorado" in Jukong Road. Later, the police arrested Henry B. Furbush, aged 25, 3rd engineer on the str. Edgohill, against whom a charge of attempted murder has been preferred in connexion with the affair.

On Tuesday morning at 10 o'clock, Major Holcomb, District Attorney, and Mr. F. J. Schuhl, Commissioner of the U. S. Court for China, visited the hospital for the purpose of taking Hazelton's deposition, but at that time the injured man was not in a condition to make a statement.

It appears that Hazelton visited the "Eldorado" in company with some friends, and whilst they were there Furbush and another man named Quinn came in, both of them being under the influence of drink. Some disturbance arose, in the course of which a stove was overturned. Hazelton apparently attempted to smooth matters over, and eventually Furbush and his companion sat down at his table. It was observed that Furbush carried a revolver in one of his pockets, and a friend quietly drew Hazelton's attention to this fact. He induced Furbush and the other man to leave the room, and in the cloak room tried to persuade them to be quiet. Shortly afterwards a shot was heard and Hazelton was seen to collapse as he was entering the room again from the cloak room. He had been struck in the back with a bullet which passed through his body. A cartridge was afterwards found in the room, but the revolver has not yet been discovered.

Furbush was held by a sailor and a marine and handed over to members of the Municipal Police who were summoned by telephone. Hazelton in the meantime having been conveyed to the hospital, outside which the police found and arrested Quinn, who is charged with having been drunk and disorderly and who is being held as a witness.

Shortly after tiffin hour on Tuesday, Hazelton regained consciousness and when Furbush was taken to his bedside, he identified accused as the man who, he said, had shot him.

We understand that Mr. M. L. Heen has been appointed to represent Furbush when the accused is brought before the Court and formally charged. The hearing will take place when Hazelton's condition is determined.

AMERICAN WOMAN'S CLUB

Successful Sale of Work

The Christmas sale and tea dance held by the American Woman's Club on Tuesday afternoon at the Carlton Café was most successful. The tables were placed in the room which adjoins the ball-room and they were arranged most attractively. At one end of the room was a fireplace and Christmas tree in connexion with the candy, cake and jam table. The Palmolive soap table furnished by the American Trading Co. made an attractive display on one side while the entrance was effectively decorated by the presence of the flower department, selling ferns and poinsettias. Along the side nearest the entrance was the miscellaneous curio table containing baskets, pillows, lacquer boxes, fans, beads, and many other nice things. Mrs. Fred van Buskirk was assisted by Mrs. R. E. Ashton with this table.

SOME OF THE STALLS.

Mrs. P. H. Dunbar had the dolls, many of which she dressed herself, aided by Mrs. Schrock, Miss Keith, and Mrs. Runyon. There was a variety of kinds of dolls, Santa Claus and bride and kewpies. Mrs. James Upson took care of the soap table and, of course, considerable money was made here because it realized clear profit. Mrs. H. Finkelstein had a table of fancy boxes that she made herself, which sold out very quickly. The candy table was handled by Mrs. H. Haynes, assisted by Mrs. Alexander, Mrs. Challoner, Mrs. Pape, Mrs. Wood and Mrs. Crane. Mrs. Percy Bryant made the plum puddings. The table was helped out by donations of home-made candies, cakes and preserved ginger. An interesting table was found in the corner of the room near the fireplace. Here were found curios brought by a class of girls from the McTyeire School. These girls are raising money for the "forward movement," and were brought in by Mrs. Herrick on a profit sharing plan. Mrs. McDonald's fancy work table was of special note because it represented a large amount of personal work. She was assisted by Mrs. Bunn, Mrs. Stoker and Mrs. Zankl. Mrs. C. C. Landis, assisted by Mrs. Dr. V. Scott, conducted a Christmas Card tally and place-card table. Some of the cards were handpainted by Mrs. Emmons and Mrs. Charington. These, of course, went very fast. Mrs. Fryer had charge of wicker-work from the Chinese Institute for the Blind.

NEGLIGÉES AND VEGETABLES.

The flowers were brought in by Mrs. Dr. Parker and Mrs. Bryant sold boutonnières. Knitted goods, including sweaters made by the Slave Refuge Society, were in the hands of Mrs. Gray; men's neckties of Mrs. Peeler, and Mrs. Clarence

Upson had a popular table of homegrown vegetables.

Negligees and lingerie and embroidered pyjamas held a most important place among the tables and were handled by Mrs. Harry Smith. Mrs. E. C. Crane's toy table was of varied interest. The dancing was interrupted in the late afternoon by the auctioning of a few things which had not yet been sold. Mr. George Fitch was the auctioneer.

AT THE CIRCUS

At what age one ceases to delight in circuses the present writer has not yet discovered, nor does he expect to do so. It is true that in some things disillusion creeps in with advancing years. Therefore it is best if possible to go with children. To their innocent eyes greasepaint and tinsel are as the loveliness of Aphrodite and the robes of Sardanapalos, and the breathless exclamation, "Oh Mummie, I wish you could have a beautiful dress like that," knocks off the cynicism of age and makes one young again. Not that there is much room for cynicism in Bostock's tent. One has seen vaster entertainments, perhaps; but there is abundance of variety and all very smartly, gracefully performed. There is an admirable clown—what his real name may be we do not know, but he calls himself Spuds—who is also a first-class gymnast and has made the art of whistling more expressive than many a man's spoken words. Then there are Mlle. Lorenz on the lofty trapeze, the acme of graceful curvature in impossible positions; Marasso, the champion jockey, as good as ever we saw; Maximo, a miracle of tight rope walking; monkeys, whose natural art has been trained into uncanny semblance of human athleticism; and trained ponies dogs and elephants all most excellent.

American Women and the Study of Porcelains

Last Friday afternoon at the Royal Asiatic Hall, the Literary Department of the American Woman's Club met to continue their study of Chinese porcelains. Mrs. Challoner read a paper on the Emperor Chien Lung, who was one of the best known rulers of the T'sing Dynasty. He ruled for 60 years from 1736 to 1796 and he was not only a good ruler but he was a scholar and was able to do much for his country as a patron of the arts. Mrs. Challoner gave brief descriptions of the arts which flourished in his time, the cloisonné, lacquer, enamels, pottery, jade carving, and cameo cutting. After her, Mrs. B. A. Edwards read a paper which dealt in detail with the *Famille Verte* and *Famille Rose* group, which the department is now studying. The paper was of much greater extent than this, however,

G. F. S. SALE OF WORK

Substantial Results from Annual Function

The sale of work of the Girls' Friendly Society, held at the former German Club, on Saturday afternoon, proved to be an unqualified success with the result that the Society was able to make a handsome gift to the Famine Relief work and at the same time put by a goodly sum which will go towards the erection of their Hostel.

In opening the sale, Lady Fraser said that the members were of the busy class but it was a pleasure to know that they were acting up to the motto of the Society to "Bear ye one another's burdens." During the war the members worked very hard to help the sailors, soldiers, and the women war-workers, but since the cessation of hostilities the members had done much to help the local charities, such as the Waifs and Strays Society, the Chinese Blind, the Russian Refugees, etc. This year the efforts of the Society were bent on helping the Famine Relief work. Half the proceeds of the present sale would be given to the Relief Fund, while the other half would be retained for the Hostel Fund, because to establish a Hostel was the one great ambition of the members and it was pleasing to know that such establishment would be accomplished in the near future.

The building was tastefully decorated, and there were many nicely arranged stalls for the sale of a great variety of things.

We understand that after payment of all the costs incurred, such as printing and advertising, at least \$3,000 will be realized from Saturday's sale.

Mr. Julean Arnold, American Commercial Attaché at Peking, arrived in Shanghai last Friday to open up a branch office of the Bureau of the Department of Commerce to supplement the work of the American Chamber of Commerce. This Bureau will be in direct connexion with governmental work rather than commercial. Mr. Arnold will return to Peking for the Christmas holidays after which he will continue his work in Shanghai until it is well established.

as it embraced the "Polychrome Chinese Porcelains from the Lung Lung Dynasty through the reign of the Emperor Chien Lung," but tracing the development of the two classes of porcelain in the various phases of its decorative forms and colour manifestations through that period. Mrs. Edwards also showed some lantern slides illustrating the different types of porcelain ware. On account of the bad weather only one example of Chinese ware was exhibited which was a "chicken skin" vase which Mrs. Wright brought.

HEALTH COMMISSION IN SHANGHAI

Opening Meeting at Ellis Kadoorie School

Under the auspices of the Shanghai Municipal Council the first of a series of meetings to be held to accord Shanghai citizens an opportunity to meet and hear the members of the Eastern Commission of the British National Council for Combating Venereal Diseases was held at the Ellis Kadoorie School on Wednesday and was well attended. Mr. A. Brooke Smith, Chairman of the Municipal Council, presided, and was supported by the members of the Eastern Commission, those members of the Municipal Council who are at present in Shanghai, members of the Advisory Committee including Judge Skinner Turner (President), and Dr. W. W. Peter, secretary to the Commission.

In opening the meeting, Mr. A. Brooke Smith said:—

Ladies and gentlemen, before I introduce to you the members of the Eastern Commission of the National Council for Combating Venereal Diseases, perhaps you will allow me briefly to explain how it is that the Commission has honoured us with its visit and, as briefly, the objects of such visit.

In May of this year, the Municipal Council was notified by His Britannic Majesty's Consul-General that the National Council was sending a commission, under the auspices of the Colonial Office, to Hongkong and to the British Colonies and inquiry was made as to whether the Municipal Council would appreciate a visit to Shanghai and be prepared to carry out a suitable local programme of activities. Our reply, that we would afford every assistance in our power to the Commission should it visit Shanghai, was transmitted to the British Foreign Office, and in due course we received word from the National Council that it was glad to arrange for its Eastern Commission to proceed to Shanghai after its visit to Hongkong. A copy of the Hongkong programme was sent to us with the request that we should notify the National Council as to how it could be adapted to render it suitable for Shanghai. We sought the views of the Shanghai Moral Welfare Committee which has taken such an active interest in the betterment of moral conditions in the Settlement and this Committee's suggestions that an Advisory Committee, and a local secretary to the Commission should be appointed, were readily adopted by us.

The following ladies and gentlemen kindly consented to serve on the Advisory Committee.

Mr. Skinner Turner, H. M. Judge, who was elected Chairman.

Drs. W. N. Billingham and J. W. Jackson.

Mr. C. H. C. Platt representing the French Council.

Dr. S. A. Ransom, Mr. F. Rawlinson,

Mrs. C. F. Remer, Mrs. S. Sakuragi, Dr. Mary Stone, The Very Rev. Dean Symons and Dr. E. S. Tyau.

Dr. W. W. Peter, secretary to the Council on Health Education, very kindly consented to undertake the duties of secretary to the advisory committee, as also the duties of local secretary to the Commission. The committee lost no time in meeting and as a result of its deliberations, a tentative programme of conferences and meetings had been drawn up ready for the Commission's arrival. So much for the Commission and its visit and now a few words as to the object of its visit.

A Royal Commission was appointed in Great Britain, in 1913, to investigate the prevalence of venereal diseases, the devastation caused thereby and how prevention or alleviation could be effected. The findings of this Commission which were presented in 1916 were such as to call for the most strenuous efforts to reduce the prevalence of these diseases in the interests of the community as a whole, which suffers as well as those who are engaged in professional prostitution. In Great Britain great headway has been made. It is realized that the cost of early treatment and instruction is far less than the cost of maintenance in the later and incurable stages of the disease. Facilities for free diagnosis and treatment are largely provided at the public expense; post graduate courses of instruction in modern methods of diagnosis and treatment have been provided for medical practitioners and in many other ways effort has been stimulated to reduce the prevalence of the disease. The members of the Royal Commission became the Executive Committee of the National Council, which is now recognized by the British Ministry of Health as its agents in undertaking educational propaganda work. Extension of its work was recently approved, by the authority given by the British Colonial Office for the despatch of two commissions, one to the British Colonies in the East and the other to those in the West, to discuss with the members of the local medical faculties and with the administrative authorities, those practical measures which would be most likely to result in the reduction of venereal diseases. It is the first of these commissions, the Eastern Commission, that has honoured us with a visit.

Ladies and gentlemen: In your name, in the name of the Council and in the name of the community as a whole, I wish to express our very grateful appreciation to the National Council for thus including Shanghai in the Commission's itinerary, also a welcome and a like expression of appreciation to the members of the Commission, Mrs. Neville Rolfe, Dr. Rupert Hallam, and Miss E. O. Grant, who, I regret to say, is absent from this meeting through illness. We wish them every possible success, and so far as it lies in our power, we will do what we can to ensure such success, relying on you who are present here this evening for

your support and through you for the support of those different interests which you represent.

One more word before I sit down—Our very appreciative thanks to Judge Skinner Turner and to those who are serving with him on the advisory committee for so very kindly coming to the Council's assistance and to Dr. Peter, the committee's indefatigable secretary.

DR. HALLAM ON RECENT PROGRESS.

Dr. Rupert Hallam then in an interesting address put before the audience an outline of the progress made in the treatment of venereal diseases, expressing the opinion that the interest of the general public was first stimulated by the formation of this Commission in 1912. It was found by the Commission that venereal disease was more prevalent than had been generally recognized, and in 1916 the public of Great Britain and of the whole world were of the opinion that something must be done to combat this scourge, which came third in the list of the killing diseases, tuberculosis and pneumonia coming first and second. Venereal disease had been the cause of filling workhouses, asylums and charitable institutions, and was a particular cause of blindness and ophthalmia in children. The Commission thought that the question should be considered from a public health point of view. After defining venereal diseases, their history and the record of the discovery of the various germs, the speaker pointed out that in every general hospital there were to be found cases, mostly amongst men, and not so many amongst women, but that many children were born with such diseases, some blind, some deaf. In recent years treatment had been provided, and this was beneficial if taken in time. Recently a new curative drug had been discovered, which was often a cure for early cases, and a relief in others. In the last few years there had been a great change in public opinion with regard to the discussion of these matters, and now men and women were discussing them openly. The Press were to be congratulated upon the bold way in which they had opened their columns for such discussion. In every well-known country measures had now been taken for the early and adequate treatment of such diseases, and in many countries free treatment was provided. The cooperation of doctors was essential to the success of the movement, but the suppression was necessary of the quacks who advertised nostrums which sufferers bought who were ashamed to go to a doctor, thereby losing the probability of permanent cure. In ten years' experience, he found that 40 per cent. of patients were morally innocent, the innocent consisting largely of women and children. In his town, as the result of education and early treatment there had been a steady decline of these diseases: while in the Barbary Coast area of San Francisco the abolition of the brothel area had resulted in a decline of

infection amongst the troops from 16.7 to 0.5 per cent.

MRS. ROLFE'S FINE SPEECH.

Mrs. C. Neville-Rolfe, in a very well worded and effective speech, asked first whether, having realized the enormity of the problem confronting them, they had any policy of prevention as well as cure? Having mentioned the measures of prevention to be adopted in the next few years, she said that she hoped during their stay in Shanghai to put before parents preventive measures that would make things easier and cleaner for the rising generation. Regulations, legislation and the spread of knowledge of facts were not sufficient. They must have the support of the point of view of the community, changed social customs, and take practical steps. She preferred public opinion and no law, to law and no public opinion. The speaker then dealt with the question of the abolition of commercialized vice, and said that the health authorities of Japan, in view of results obtained, were distinctly in favour of eliminating licensed districts. With regard to the economic side of the question, it was not so much the material of costs that had to be considered, but that of brains, energy and organization. Men and women must face the situation together and try to solve it together.

At American Woman's Club

Members of the American Women's Club met at the Carlton Café on Wednesday morning to welcome Mrs. Neville Rolfe, one of the ladies who recently arrived in Shanghai with the Commission.

After describing her voyage out to China, Mrs. Rolfe explained the mission of the Commission and expressed the hope that Shanghai ladies would do their utmost to co-operate.

UNION CHURCH GUILD

It is evident that literature is to be a strong feature of the meetings of Union Church Guild this season. The Pastor made an excellent beginning with "Literary Autographs," and on Wednesday Mr. Graham Barrow entertained members with a paper on Dickens. In an interesting address he showed how Dickens made "the man in the street" his hero. A short biographical sketch enabled him to trace the influence of Kentish historic and literary influences upon the boyhood of Dickens, smiled upon from Gads Hill by Falstaff, spiritual godfather to his children. In all his travels, said Mr. Barrow, Dickens never left England. Even in the sunshine of Italy he saw the fog of London. The speaker gave point to his observations by some excellent readings from "Pickwick," "David Copperfield," and "A Tale of Two Cities."

The Rev. A. C. Claxton was in the chair, and at the conclusion of

FAR EASTERN MAIL BY SEAPLANE

The Shanghai Service

UP-TO-DATE MOVE BY U.S. POST OFFICE

The seaplane service which has been established between Seattle and Victoria, B. C. for connexion with the Empress boats has advanced the mails to Chicago and San Francisco about 24 hours by getting the mail into Seattle for afternoon delivery instead of the next morning.

Mr. Everett of the American Post Office has received instructions to make up seaplane mail to be taken off the boats at Victoria and sent on the air line to Seattle.

This way, the mail reaches Seattle two hours after the boat reaches Victoria.

Only business mail addressed to Seattle, San Francisco, Chicago, Philadelphia, New York, and Boston, will be accepted for this service and it must be plainly marked "Victoria-Seattle Seaplane Service" and be in the office an hour before closing time.

Registered mail will not be served on the seaplanes and if special delivery service at the other end is desired, a special delivery stamp must be affixed to the envelope.

Gold Currency only for Stamps at U. S. Postoffice

Owing to the rate of gold falling to the 200 point, a notice has been issued by Mr. E. Everett, American Postmaster, to the effect that only gold currency will be accepted in payment of stamps until further notice. Mexican currency will be received in payment of money orders only at the bank's selling rate of exchange at the time of purchase.

The following is a copy of the notice:—

"Under orders from the Postmaster General surcharged stamps are removed from sale on account of the rate of exchange.

"Stamps are now sold for American money exclusively. The clerks are forbidden to accept Shanghai currency in exchange for stamps.

"Local currency will be accepted in payment for money orders at the bank's selling rate of exchange at time of purchase."

Mr. Everett stated on Sunday to a representative of this paper that the instructions received from Washington, made effective on July 1, 1919, were that ordinary stamps should be sold for American money only and that surcharged stamps should be sold for Mexican currency. Such surcharged stamps, the instructions continued, were to be withdrawn from sale when exchange reached 200 or two Shanghai dollars for one gold dollar.

the lecture the Rev. W. Robbins expressed the thanks of the audience in a happy speech.

ANOTHER NEW BANK OPENED

The Shanghai branch of the new Industrial Development Bank of China was formally opened up at No. 16 Peking Road on Thursday. There was a continuous flow of visitors throughout the day: these included most of the most prominent Chinese and foreign bankers and merchants in Shanghai. Up to 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon the total deposits amounted to Tls. 3,117,644 and \$560,000.

The embarrassing position in China's government finances and popular economics, it is felt, has been due to neglect of industrial development and the bank has been organized with a view to giving impetus to industries, as distinguished from many other banks in Shanghai.

The promoters of the bank are Messrs. Yu Ya-ching, Pan Fu and Yung Chung-ching, who laid the scheme before the Peking Government and met with hearty support from the Premier, General Chin Yun-peng, President Hsu Shih-chang, former President Li Yuan-hung, Mr. Chow Tze-chi, Minister of Finance, and Minister Wang of the Ministry of Agriculture and Commerce, who have all subscribed considerable sums to its capital. The formation and opening of the bank is generally looked upon as a blessing to industries and their development.

It appears that, under the rules for industrial banks which were promulgated by the Peking Parliament in the Third Year of the Republic, the Government guarantees interest at 5 per cent. per annum on the capital of such banks for a period of ten years and grants to them the right of issuing industrial development debentures.

The authorized capital of the bank is \$5,000,000 of which two-fifths of the official shares and three-fifths of the private shares, to the extent of \$2,500,000, have been paid up.

The directors and managers are elected from among holders of the privately owned shares. Its head office is in Peking and the chairman of the board of directors is Mr. Pan Fu. Mr. Yu Ya-ching is vice-chairman, Mr. Chang Shou-yung, manager of the head office, with Mr. Wu Tze-shan as sub-manager. Mr. Zah Yung-jei and Mr. C. H. Chen are respectively manager and sub-manager of the Shanghai office.

Launch of T. P. R. Steamer

On Saturday afternoon, at 2 o'clock, the steamer Cheng Ping was christened by Miss Wang Yohsien, daughter of Dr. C. T. Wang, president of the Chinese Chamber of Commerce, and launched at the Kiangnan dock. This steamer was built for the Tientsin-Pukow Railway and is to ply between Nanking and Pukow. She measures 155 ft. in length, and 35 ft. in width, and her cost was Tls. 184,000.

A SHARP FIRE

At 2.28 a.m. on Thursday the Central Division responded to a call to Chekiang and Nanking Roads, and on turning the corner volumes of smoke were seen issuing from the windows of two shops, Nos. 229/30 Chekiang Road. A fierce fire was found raging at the back, where a drying stage and a shambles below were in flames. The outbreak was situated in a very nasty position, and against the backs of four shops, three buildings on a Tientsin Road alleyway, and a range of dwellings at the rear, and was spreading with great rapidity in every direction. Five jets were operated in less than a minute, and the area of fire was surrounded. There was a large quantity of woodwork burning, and the flames had already entered the main buildings in places. There was a good deal of smoke, but the Division worked with such effect that on the arrival of the Sinza Division, who had responded to a District call, five minutes afterwards, the conflagration was practically extinguished, with, in view of the situation, very little damage. The drying stages were wrecked, a tailor's shop was damaged upstairs, as also was the side portion of No. 230, a general shop. No. 231 was affected upstairs, and Q546, off Tientsin Road, was badly burnt. Two or three other buildings were slightly damaged.

At 11.15 a.m. the Brigade turned out to a fire on the str. Edgehill, lying alongside the Hongkew Wharf, at the Chaoufoong Road section. A section of the Brigade turned out, but found the outbreak in one of the spare bunkers, had been extinguished by the ship's crew. Apparently, the fire was caused by an overheated steam pipe. There was practically no cargo damage, and no damage to the hull.

Blind Soldiers and Sailors

	£	\$	Tls.
Previously acknowledged	50	847.15	297.10
Shanghai Race Club	500		
Two Non-Starters		40.00	
	550	887.15	297.10

DR. YEN TEH-CHING, managing director of the Canton-Hankow Railway has been appointed by the Ministry of Communications to go to Europe and America to study railroad conditions there. The Chinese press states that Dr. Yen will leave Peking shortly.

Mr. Chang Chien, director general of the Woosung Commercial Port, has informed the Peking Government that the surveying of the vicinity and other preparations for the opening of Woosung as a commercial port have already begun. Actual work will be started in about two or three months' time.

CORRESPONDENCE

A QUERY.

To the Editor of the

"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—Perhaps some one who knows will be good enough to answer the following questions:—

1.—Are the Japanese demanding the right to buy land in California and at the same time refusing foreigners the right to buy land in Japan?

2.—If the answer is yes, on what possible principle can they dare to demand that Americans shall give them privileges in America that they refuse in their own country?

3.—Is it correct that a British ship from Canada to Shanghai calling at Yokohama, Kobe and Nagasaki is refused permission to take on any passengers from one Japanese port to another?

4.—Is it true that Japanese ships plying to British ports in India, and Australasia take on passengers from one British port to another?

5.—If the answers are in the affirmative, why is such unequal treatment conceded by the British?

I am, etc.,

EDWARD S. LITTLE.

Shanghai, Dec. 9.

To the Editor of the

"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR.—The following are replies to Mr. Little's five questions:—

1.—In Japan aliens cannot purchase land, and though they are taxed they have not even the privilege of a municipal vote.

2.—Mr. Little asks on what principle the Japanese dare to demand that Americans shall give them privileges in America that they refuse in their own country? The answer would seem obvious enough: On the principle of getting something for nothing.

3.—British ships, not only from Canada but from any other port in the world, calling at any port in Japan en route to their destination can not only take no passengers but no cargo from one Japanese port to another.

4.—Japanese ships plying not only to British ports in India and Australia but on the coast of Great Britain itself can not only take passengers but also cargo from one British port to another.

5.—Mr. Little asks why such unequal treatment is conceded by the British? The question can only be answered by the statesmen who made the treaty which concedes these inequalities.

No one who knows Mr. Little can have any doubt that he is perfectly well able to answer the questions propounded himself, and the only explanation that suggests it-

self for this circuitous way of extracting information is probably the fact that the steamer on which he is leaving for New Zealand may touch a Japanese port where "dangerous thoughts" are contraband, and he may thus expose himself to detention the same as Mr. Shaw.

I am, etc.,

GORDIUS NIELSEN.

Shanghai, Dec. 11.

SHANGHAI RACE CLUB.

\$87,500 IN CHARITY

To the Editor of the

"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

Dear Sir,—The Stewards of the Race Club are pleased to announce that, during the second half of this year, racing on the Shanghai Race Course has been the means of providing the sum of \$82,500, which with the sum of \$5,000 donated to the Weihaiwei Famine Relief Fund during the first half of this year and returned owing to the further funds not being required, makes a total of \$87,500 in hand for distribution among Charities at the present time.

The Stewards have decided to distribute the above total among the Charity Funds, etc., enumerated below, and hope their decision meets with the approval of all those interested.

	\$
Charing Cross Hospital (already remitted)	25,697.04
China Famine Relief Fund	10,000.00
Union Jack Club	5,969.64
Women's Famine Relief Society	5,000.00
United Services Association	5,000.00
St. Dunstan's Fund for Blind Soldiers & Sailors, £500	3,333.33
Sportsmen's Fund in aid of Officers' Association, Earl Haig's appeal, £500	3,333.33
King George's Sanatorium for Sailors, Lord Inchcape's appeal, £500	3,333.33
Sailors' War Orphans Fund, £500	3,333.33
Shanghai Ladies' Benevolent Fund	3,000.00
King's Daughters Society	3,000.00
Portuguese Ladies' Benevolent Fund	2,500.00
Punjab Imperial Relief Fund for Wounded Sikhs	2,000.00
Thimble Fund for Seamen's Hospital, Greenwich	1,000.00
Shantung Road Hospital	1,000.00
St. Luke's Hospital	1,000.00
Societe de St. Vincent de Paul	1,000.00
The Charity League	1,000.00
Institution for the Chinese Blind	1,000.00
Chinese Red Cross Society	1,000.00
Chinese Children's Refuge	1,000.00
Little Sisters of the Poor	1,000.00
Soeurs de Charité	1,000.00
St. Monica's Society	1,000.00
Shanghai Mission to Rischia Men	1,000.00
Total	\$87,500.00

Remittances will be forwarded to the Treasurers of the above Funds without delay.

I remain,

Yours faithfully,

W. S. JACKSON,

Chairman,

Shanghai Race Club.

Shanghai, Dec. 10.

THE KOREANS IN CHIENTAO.

To the Editor of the

"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—As a constant and painstaking reader of your esteemed journal I was dumbfounded with the most assuredly, at least from a Korean stand-point, misleading caption, "Korean Outlaws of Chientao," with which you chose to label the official Japanese despatch from Tokio in the December 16 issue of your respected paper. Such a surprise was rather unexpected because your paper has always been known to be moderate and just in all matters.

In justice to the thousands of Koreans who have made the supreme sacrifice and others who will be compelled to fight later as now no other recourse is open to them, I have taken upon myself the liberty of laying before you certain facts in the hope that the myriads of those who read your paper may judge for themselves as to whether the Koreans in Manchuria are such rascals as to deserve such an appellation as "outlaws." Those who have followed the so-called punitive expedition of the Japanese army in Chientao will recall that the expedition began soon after the raid on the Japanese Consulate in the early part of last October. The raid was made principally by Chinese bandits and reports that Koreans had taken part in the raid, I mean Korean revolutionists, are purely of Japanese manufacture. A Japanese who was taken by the bandits and later on released said that there were no Koreans among the outlaws. But whether there were Koreans in the raiding party or not is not so fundamental as whether it is justifiable that Japan should ignore the sovereignty of an independent power and send troops into a territory not under their jurisdiction, and massacre all the law-abiding inhabitants thereof and destroy everything within the reach of her military might. The cold facts which are now admitted by the Japanese War Office are that the Japanese troops have been rather too severe in performing their duties. Where machine-guns and bombs failed to satisfy their lust for carnage and desolation torch and fire were appealed to, to destroy every landmark of once flourishing Korean villages.

Of course the writer can see that all this talk of Korean suffering will in most cases fall by the wayside since mankind has been so much harangued and billeted with stories of wanton destruction and massacre; but for those who have still left in them the "milk of human kindness" the following few figures will prove illuminating:

In Hungchun 242 people were killed, 457 houses including one school were burned and 925 bags of cereals destroyed. In Yienchi 1,124 Koreans were killed, 110 arrested and 76 women outraged. 1094 houses, 19 schools and 7 churches were burned and 10,580 bags of cereals destroyed. In Hsueh 572 were killed 314 houses burned including 6 schools and

8,320 bags of cereals destroyed. In Wangchung 347 killed, 642 house burned and 5,070 bags of cereals destroyed. The above outrages were committed in North Chientao and a similar list could be given for West Chientao. These figures have been taken from a study of the Japanese newspapers and the reports which came to the local Koreans. Major-General Saito recently said that "speedy executions and burning of houses have been rendered necessary" and that that was done "regardless of the fact that some innocent persons probably suffer." The facts are that so far only the innocent have suffered. The avowed purpose of the Japanese expedition was to stamp out brigandage, but instead of going after the brigands the Japanese soldiers have delighted themselves in razing whole towns and villages and killing all the Koreans they can get hold of. If Attila "the scourge of God" were living he would cut a very sorry figure compared with the modern scourges in Manchuria.

The Japanese militarists were anxious to find some pretence whereby they could rush an army into Manchuria and terrorize the Koreans who were known to be forsaking the paternal folds of the Japanese Empire. The million or more Koreans in Manchuria were a potential danger to the safety of the Japanese well-being in Korea and the Tokio War Office had been looking for chance with which to dislodge the Koreans from their well established points of vantage.

If one decides for himself not to be convinced and insists that the Koreans are outlaws and brigands then he must at the same time see that the Tokio War Office has burglars, cowards and murderers now masquerading as soldiers and keepers of peace in that far flung outpost of civilization. One is almost tempted to say, "Oh, peace, how many crimes have been committed in thy name."

Thanking you for your kind space,
I am, etc.,

G. C. WHANG.

Shanghai, Dec. 10.

*No invidious meaning was intended in the use of the word outlaws, which has in history, covered many with whom the world has sympathized.—Ed.

THE TRAMWAYS.

To the Editor of the

"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—Anonymity of contributors, in a matter like this, is perhaps not objectionable if there is helpfulness in the suggestions made. Parenthetically, let me say that what follows is not necessary for the enlightenment of local tramway officials; they are undoubtedly fully conversant with systems other than their own; but it may serve to guide those who are public-spirited enough to engage in stimulating discussion of a subject in which a large section of Shanghai is interested.

Reference has been made in recent correspondence to a somewhat

legendary case in America which pre-supposes a transportation system wherein car conductors' chief function is the collection of fares.

Such a scheme possibly obtains in very small or backward places in the U. S. A., but in the chief centres where trolley lines are an important feature, the scheme was abandoned years ago. In all places except those in the "town" or village class, the main duty of a trolley conductor is to see that his car is operated with the maximum amount of convenience and safety for passengers; the collection of fares occupies less of his time than any one of the other things he does on duty.

THE UNIFORM FARE.

This is accomplished mainly by three things, viz. a uniform fare of five cents covering any distance; a glass-enclosed fare-box at the entrance end of the car into which passengers drop their fares as they enter the car; and the necessity for passengers to enter the car on the platform where the fare-box is placed, and where the conductor invariably stands. Posted at this place, the conductor has ample time, view, etc., for the efficient performance of each of his functions.

The uniformity of the fare, and plentifulness of the 5-cent nickel coins is a great advantage. If passengers require change, it is almost instantly obtained from the conductor as the passenger boards the car and passes him and the fare-box. For this purpose the conductor carries suspended from his neck or strapped about his waist a coin-box with cylindrical containers for each of the fractional dollar coins—5, 10, 25 and 50 cents, from which any number of any coin is semi-automatically withdrawn.

Fares are not always paid in coin. In most places a system of transfers from one line to another obtains, so that frequently passengers in boarding a car, pay the fare with a transfer slip; this is simply handed to the conductor as the passenger enters the car.

SAN FRANCISCO METHODS.

In San Francisco there has been introduced a feature designed to expedite the handling of the heavy traffic which begins homeward from the "down-town" district at the close of afternoon office hours. This is the stationing at the street intersections, where the congestion is greatest, of additional conductors. These men remain at such positions for a period of about one to two hours. Passengers may pay their fares to these men, and as cars approach, such passengers are authorized by these conductors to board the cars at the front-end platforms of the cars; the front-end platforms which are reserved for exit only during the other hours of the day, being utilized during the rush hours for the entrance of passengers who have paid their fares to the extra con-

ductors stationed on the street corners during those hours.

A "transportation man" myself, I could likely supply local readers with at least an entertaining three columns of the "N.C. Daily News," descriptive of systems, devices, etc., now in use and designed to cope with heavy traffic on trolley cars; unfortunately many of them cannot be applied to Shanghai for reasons which are more or less obvious, and principal among which are, in their orders of importance, the hopelessly narrow roads and the necessity for classification of passengers. The latter obstacle could be overcome or successfully provided for, if we could have cars of the proper structure and size; but we cannot have them so long as the width of our roads is restricted.

SOME THINGS POSSIBLE.

We can, however, apply some remedies; and one of the remedies would seem to be the elimination of the zone or section system of fares. From my observations here, the present system of fares is the greatest stumbling block to a more efficient service. "Cut it out" entirely and make a straight fare cover any distance. It may be argued that a uniform fare will necessarily be too high, and a fare low enough to come within the public's possible idea of a uniform fare, will be too low to furnish revenue for the tramway company. This is open to discussion, calculation, and best of all, a trial. I venture to say that with a straight fare for first and proportional arbitrary for other class, the volume of business (in money) will at once be greater than it is now. Be the financial side what it may; the company can present its views on that; I am sneaking of the efficiency of the service.

I offer, then, two suggestions: That the zone or section fare system be at once done away with; and that the issuance by conductors of tickets in exchange for cash paid them also be abolished. As I see it, these are the two cancers which are eating away whatever efficiency there is in the local trams. It is unnecessary to enumerate the many benefits which will follow immediately and automatically on the elimination of these two methods; the benefits are too obvious to need mention. Keep in mind, again, that I am speaking of service, not finance.

I am, etc.,

TRANSPORT.

Shanghai, Dec. 11.

IRISH AND CROWN APPOINTMENTS.

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—With reference to a telegram in your paper a few days ago about a wall being blown down by a gale in Belfast killing three people and headed by you "Another injustice to Ireland," the following pertinent inquiry is not out of place.

In British possessions (excluding the self-governing Colonies of

which the Irish form an integral body and consequently have no cause for complaint) Egypt and China what proportion of appointments under the Crown and in commercial houses do the Irish hold? The rank and file of the Army, Navy and police forces not to be included for reasons which are only too obvious. Are they anything like in proportion to the population of England and Ireland which is in the ratio of six to one? In China take the C.M. Customs, Municipal Council and Railways etc., the appointments of Irish are conspicuous by their absence.

In one British possession where there was a population of not less than 4,000 English only a solitary Irishman could be found.

As there are no Irish firms in existence have English firms ever thought of reserving say 5 per cent. of their appointments for them?

Even the late Mr. Cecil Rhodes known as an Empire Builder, in his scholarships at Oxford for the Colonies, America and Germany, established with a view of mutually knowing each other other better, omitted the Irish. Under all these circumstances can one wonder that the English and Irish fail to understand each other although Ireland as Mr. Lloyd George recently admitted had taken a brilliant part in the Army in building up the British Empire?

If there had been an understanding there would without doubt have been an increase in Ireland's population in the past century instead of a decrease and consequently there would have been considerably less casualties for England in the late war and America's assistance would not have been necessary.

Mr. George recently said the troubles of Ireland were due to errors of former governments. Let us hope that in another 50 years the statesmen of that period won't have to say the same of him as follows "If he had granted them Dominion home rule and complete control of their finances without that army and navy of which he was so frightened, there would be no trouble now."

Thanking you in anticipation for inserting this and enclosing my card.

I am, etc.,

A NON R. C. IRISHMAN.

Shanghai, Dec. 11.

To the Editor of the

"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—Is it permitted to suggest that by your headline to the letter from "Non R. C. Irishman" in your issue of to-day's date, which you entitle "Irish and Crown Appointments" you have, implicitly, adopted some of the writer's most flagrant "Bulls."

"In China take the C. M. Customs....."

Since when was the Chinese Customs a British Crown Service?

Further, was there ever a comparatively recently created service in the whole world more in-

timately associated with Ireland? The writer need only have walked to the Bund and looked at the statue of Sir Robert Hart, who was pre-eminently partial to Ireland. The service lists of the Chinese Customs only specify the nationality of the members, who might be Australians, English, Scotch, Canadians, etc., but all ranked as "British." Acquaintance with the British in the upper ranks, at all events till very recently, revealed a notorious partiality for Irishmen.

Again, the Shanghai Municipal Council! There is now, admittedly, no longer any "English" Settlement. On what grounds should the British Crown interfere with the government of the International Settlements specially to provide against "another injustice to Ireland"? There are certainly firms with only members from England, there are no "English" firms. There are great firms with predominating Scottish members. Firms are not nationalized, and the members of a firm remain subject to the laws of their original country, save when they have agreed by their partnership deeds to abide by decisions of any particular country's laws, for business only.

I am, etc.,

BRITISHER.

Shanghai, Dec. 13.

To the Editor of the

"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—"A Non. R. C. Irishman" appears to suffer from the lack of humour for which his nation is reputedly famous.

The Chinese Maritime Customs, the Municipal Council and the Chinese Railways are not yet British possessions.

The name of the British Possession where there were 4,000 English and only one Irishman is not given. It should be a place to live in. Can "A Non-R. C. I." give any idea why a business firm should give appointments to anyone except for business reasons? The fact that there are no Irish firms ("A. N. R. C. I.'s" own statement) would argue that the Irish firms in Ireland lack the initiative etc., to establish overseas sub-depôts.

Irishmen abroad, under the British flag, have equal opportunities with Englishmen and Scots. If they be equally intelligent, honest and painstaking they will find that all appointments are open to them.

The late Cecil Rhodes omitted Irish as such from participation in his scheme of scholarships because Irishmen have equal rights with Englishmen and Scots all over the world and it is within my knowledge that two Englishmen holding Rhodes scholarships are Irishmen. There may be more.

What Mr. Lloyd George said is not evidence.

Understandings don't increase populations; but as far as I can personally understand Irishmen in

Ireland, their present idea is to decrease the population by the most abhorrent means.

I am, etc.,

A NON-SECTARIAN ENGLISHMAN.
Shanghai, Dec. 14.

THE LIGHT THAT FAILS.

To the Editor of the

"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—Now that the days are shorter and the nights correspondingly longer, it would appear that those responsible for the supply of electric current have set themselves to show the public just how unreliable the service can be; at least, so far as the district in which I reside viz.—that much despised "Eastern District."

Between two or three weeks ago the light failed entirely for about 45 minutes, and it was very "shaky" for some time after its renewal.

On Sunday the 12th instant there was no current for over four hours from what my servants tell me, but I cannot vouch for this as I was dining out, though I see no reason to doubt their word for it.

Last night (Monday) I reached home at 4.40 p.m. and there was no current until 9.15 p.m. or say four and a half hours which is a little bit thick—two nights in succession.

Those in charge may have some excuse to give for the wretched state of affairs which appears to exist at the Power Station, but judging from the statements in your paper as to the amount of current supplied to the French Concession, it would almost seem that the ratepayers of the International Settlement, who are responsible for the loans contracted to finance the Electric Light Department of the Council, are being restricted in their supply of current to keep up a more steady supply to the aforesaid Concession, as the residents in that Concession do not seem to have suffered to anything like the same extent as those residing in the International Settlement.

If the plant at the Power Station is insufficient for the work it is called upon to perform, I think that the ratepayers of the International Settlement should have the first call on the product of the enterprise for which they are financially responsible.

I am, etc.,

J. AMBROSE.

Shanghai, Dec. 14.

To the Editor of the

"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—I beg to add my little quota of protest to that of Mr. Ambrose. Anything seems to be good enough for Hongkew in the estimation of the powers that be.

Things have come to such a head that we must be forced to the conclusion that there are a few very incompetent cogs in the august Council machinery.

A "Municipal Salaries Commission" is right enough. But

why not also a "Municipal Service Investigation Bureau" for the removal of incompetent "godsons." Salary Revision can be put off till then. In the meantime anybody feeling twinges of conscience has the remedy in his own hand. The Famine Relief Fund offers him a splendid opportunity to dispose of that portion of his pay which he ought to consider the unearned portion.

Enclosing my name and address.

I am, etc.,

B.

Shanghai, Dec. 15.

To the Editor of the

"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—Mr. Ambrose seems to doubt if our electric light ever goes out, and thinks that on last Sunday night, we were not bereft of our feeble light. Two hours and more I would tell him, we were strafed with the deepest murky dim. We did not have to dine out that night, so can guarantee our statement is right. We cannot growl and kick up the deuce with those who try to dole out the juice, whatever the tune called by those in France; we pay the piper and have to dance, whether it's dirty water or insufficient trams, they don't care a bunch of Gallic d—s, so we try to exist amidst all retrogression which has to be put up with in the French Concession.

I am, etc.,

A RESIDENT OF THE FRENCH
CONCESSION.

Shanghai, Dec. 15.

RATES BEYOND LIMITS.

To the Editor of the

"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—I am a resident outside the settlement limits and have recently returned to Shanghai to find that the rates which I pay to the Municipal Council have been raised from 7 to 12 per cent. I have no complaint to make regarding this increase, as I understand it was levied on the grounds that residents outside enjoyed the same privileges as those within the Settlement. In these circumstances, doubtless, the Council will some day light the road in which I live, and it is even possible that the Waterworks Co. may later on refund the contribution I made towards the cost of their water main—however, this is apart from the object of this letter, which is to inquire through the medium of your columns whether, in view of the large increase of foreign residents outside the Settlement who are at present taxed without having any representation on the Council, any steps are likely to be taken to remedy this state of affairs. I for one now pay more in taxes than I did when formerly resident within the Settlement as a qualified voter; no doubt many others are in a similar position.

Although the matter is perhaps not very important at present, the time may come when foreign residents outside the Settlement will outnumber those within. From the

last census returns it will be seen that foreign residents in "Outside roads" number 3,661—out of a total of 23,307—or over 15 per cent.—and with the amount of building now going on the number will be largely increased in the near future.

Perhaps it is looking far ahead, but if present conditions are adhered to, it is within the bounds of possibility that voters will in the distant future, consist entirely of landowners or those having places of business in the Settlement.

I am, etc.,

OUTSIDE ROADER.

Shanghai, Dec. 15.

CLOCKS AND WEATHER.

To the Editor of the

"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—Perhaps you or some of your correspondents will be so good as to settle a controversy at this out-of-way port: Are watches and clocks affected by the weather? I find that they go slower as barometer drops.

Enclosing my card,

I am, etc.,

PRO.

Tsingtao, Dec. 9.

So far as we have been able to ascertain, the point raised does not admit of a perfectly definite answer. Most watches are affected by the cold weather, in which it will generally be found that they "lose." The extent to which they may be affected, however, would seem to depend upon the quality of the watch. Some of first class make are found to keep absolutely correct time in all temperatures. It is a fact that in cold weather, watches have a tendency to "go slow."—Ed.

To the Editor of the

"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—Your reply to "Clocks & Weather" correspondent, Tsingtao, affords grounds for suspecting that the crucial point of his letter escaped your notice. Other readers of his letter made the identical error. Your "note" would, at best, only apply to *thermometrical* conditions. He asked you about *barometrical*. Incidentally, too, since heat expands and cold contracts metals, your explanation of watches going slow in cold weather is, for once, unsatisfactory. Obviously they should gain, not lose since balance would be shorter.

The real reason is far simpler. Unfortunately your verdict that any watch or clock has ever been made to keep absolutely correct time is hopelessly optimistic. All clocks and chronometers vary. The steadiness of their variation is the point aimed at. Observatory clocks are remarkably seldom showing the correct time. Calculations are needed allowing for rate of clock, before correct time is given. Their cases are exhausted of air and all sorts of precautions taken to obviate weather difficulties. Unfortunately clocks are only machinery, however perfect. Wat-

ches, ditto. Machinery needs lubricants. Lubricants alter in density and dry up gradually in all cases. If watches lose in cold weather it is because the oil thickens and obstructs freedom of movement. Cruel but simple explanation!

The old fashioned pendulums of "precision" clocks, and many "Hall" or "Grandfather's Clocks" exhibit a regular "lyre" of compensating bars of various metals. Result quite unreliable. Equally good results are given by a simple wood bar, which is used for moderately priced precision clocks of present day. The finest precision clocks nowadays have steel tube pendulums, with mercury bob, and mercury rises in the tube to work the compensation. That point would seem to indicate that horologists have discovered some intimate connexion between barometrical pressure and clock variations. From personal experience I can sorrowfully concur. In summer, here, the thermometer does not fall sufficiently to affect the lubricating oil. Yet I can affirm that daily records checked by baro-thermograph records do prove alterations in a precision clock's rate when weather is wet and heavy. Your correspondent has raised a point which merits the most expert elucidation and cannot be dealt with by humble amateurs, nor by casual conversation.

I am, etc.,
"AMATEUR."

Shanghai, Dec. 15.

* Neither attempted to deal with it in the note objected to—which was based on information obtained from an expert watchmaker.—Ed.

THE RICSHAMAN'S CHRISTMAS

To the Editor of the

"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—I am very glad to see that you are starting this Fund in good time this year, and I enclose herewith cheque for \$50 in the hope that this year's total will easily beat all records. The Christmas Day envelope is an excellent idea, but on that morning people are particularly busy exchanging greetings with their friends, etc., everything is topsy-turvy and there is very little time for examining the newspaper or its contents, consequently the envelope gets lost or mislaid. I am very much afraid that had it not been for the generosity of the British-American Tobacco Company, last year's Fund would have been very poor. As you say, the richshamen are a most deserving class of workers, and they are in the unfair position that whilst everyone else's salaries or wages have been greatly increased, the poor richshamen has had nothing whatever done for him and has no means of bettering himself. I hope the Shanghai public will bear this in mind when sending in their gifts.

I am, etc.,
J. H. R.

Shanghai, Dec. 16.

OPIUM IN SHANGHAI.

To the Editor of the

"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—Seeing that counsel on both sides of the recent opium-smuggling case have, from different view-points, described it as a "most remarkable case," perhaps you will permit me to publicly express my agreement with the designation, from still a different angle. The Italian authorities demanded that the case be tried before the Italian Assessor, on the ground that Italian interests were involved. What interests? Accuser and accused are both Chinese, if either of them were Italian subjects it is presumed the case would have been tried in the Italian Court. The smuggler, Shen, is an employee of F. Parlani, an Italian subject who is known to have been connected with shops where opium was sold. Was the smuggler acting on behalf of a foreigner? If so, why is the principal not dealt with? If the affair was in no way connected with an Italian, by what right can the Italian Consulate claim that Italian interests were so involved as to justify the demand that the case be tried before its own Assessor? If the matter is sufficiently Italian to justify this demand, it is also sufficiently so for the Italian officials to take action in such a flagrant case of breach of Chinese law and International Settlement Regulations.

RECENT HISTORY.

A little perspective will help the ordinary citizen to understand things better. A certain official announced some time ago that if a charge of selling opium was brought against one of his nationals, he would have to dismiss the case. On the initiative of the Anti-Opium Association, a charge was brought by the Police against F. Parlani, opium having been bought at half a dozen places with which he was connected. The Italian Consul dismissed the charge. Parlani pleaded ignorance of the sale of opium, and said he would investigate. As the selling of opium at the same shops continued unchecked—I saw it myself—about a month later more samples were bought and the Anti-Opium Association decided to again prosecute. The S. M. Police applied three times at the Italian Consulate for a summons, and were refused. At last the Italian officials appear to have done something, as the places were closed. Now if there was transgression of law sufficient to cause that the places were ultimately closed, why did the Italian officials refuse a summons against the alleged proprietor? Did they punish him in any way?

SMUGGLER—AND DETECTIVE.

Now comes this latest case of admitted smuggling and underhand proceeding, and curiously enough the name of the same Italian subject is connected with it through an employee, and the

Consulate steps in and says the case must be tried before an Italian Assessor. It is known that the detective who is accused of receiving money, has been successful in bringing many cases of smuggling to light; he is therefore the *bête noire* of opium dealers, and some would rejoice to have him imprisoned and dismissed from the Force. He has been sentenced to a year's imprisonment, while the admitted smuggler gets off with a fine of \$300. So far as the Court's judgement on the accused is concerned, I am, of course, not calling it in question; it is mentioned only for information. But as regards the smuggler—and a clearer case could not be found—I wish to point out that the Chinese Provisional Code (Art. 266) says that punishment should be imprisonment for a minimum of two months, up to a maximum of five years. Fines are sometimes substituted for imprisonment, but the latter would be more effective for smugglers. What is a comparatively small fine to people doing a lucrative business like opium-smuggling?

Again I ask, where do the Italian interests appear? Dr. Fischer is reported as saying "the defence has tried to implicate other people in this case." If by that is meant that other people were not implicated in it, then it would appear that the Italian Consulate had claimed a jurisdiction over a purely Chinese case. As that is not likely, we may conclude that, in spite of Dr. Fischer's remark, some "other people" have been implicated in this case, though apparently not brought to book.

It is to be presumed that the local Italian authorities are aware that Italy was one of the signatories to the Articles of the Hague Opium Convention of 1912, which, among other things provides that

"The contracting Powers having treaties with China shall take effective measures for the gradual reduction of the number of opium shops in which raw and prepared opium is sold, which may still exist in their settlements and concessions in China. They shall adopt effective measures for the restriction and control of the retail trade in opium in the settlements and concessions."

MORAL ISSUES.

Now, even though the matter may not have yet been ratified, can such actions as are above related be considered to be in accordance with the spirit of the undertaking given in 1912? It is impossible to believe that Italy was insincere when she signed; it is therefore very unfortunate that local action is so disappointing. But neither the Mixed Court nor the Italian Consular Court can give the final verdict when moral issues are involved; there is the bar of public opinion, and no nation or individual can afford to persist in offending the moral sense of the public. Italy will be judged by the actions of her subjects more than by signatures to Articles if these are not honourably carried out. The opium question is a world-wide one; it is being discussed by the League of Nations. Actions in Shanghai cannot always remain local in such

an international subject as this; it is only right that the world should know the facts if Italians either themselves engage in, or permit others under their protection to engage in, a traffic which is illegal in China, and which is contrary to the laws of this Settlement. I appeal to the Italians to consider their own fair name, and the interests of good government, as well as the moral issues involved, and make it quite clear to all that they will have nothing to do with a revival of the opium traffic, and let no one be able to retain the least suspicion that Italians give any protection to those dealing in it.

I am, etc,

OBSERVER.

Shanghai, Dec. 16.

THE December issue of "Stamp Topics" is very interesting indeed. How many collectors know there are two distinct sets of the 1913-14 Chinese stamps. One engraved and printed in London and the other in China after the establishment of their own engraving and printing bureau. For further information on this and other interesting topics those interested should obtain a copy of "Stamp Topics" in which the two issues are illustrated.

An evangelistic campaign has been in progress at Shanghai College, a feature of which has been the work of Mr. James Yen who among other things contributed a valuable address upon the problem of ancestor worship. An appeal for a decision in favour of the Christian life was responded to by 33 men, while 14 others expressed a strong interest in the subject. It is interesting to mention that the spectacular and sentimental element was entirely absent from this campaign.

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COMPANY MEETINGS

KOTA BAHROE RUBBER ESTATES

Reconstruction Scheme

The tenth annual general meeting of the Kota Bahroe Rubber Estates, Ltd., was held on the 10th instant at the offices of the Secretaries and General Managers, No. 2 Kiukiang Road, Mr. A. W. Burkill presiding.

In the course of the remarks, the Chairman, after expressing the Directors' great regret at the death of the former Chairman of the Company, Mr. E. Jenner Hogg, said, in part:—

The year has been a difficult one, labour difficulties and increased costs being among the troubles we have to contend with in the South, while at this end exchange rates throughout the year were very unfavourable and taking this into consideration I think the profit of Tls. 52,084.96 for the year may be regarded as not unsatisfactory.

The estimated output for the year was slightly exceeded. The f.o.b. cost is 1.62d. higher than the previous year, due to the generally enhanced cost of estate supplies and the loss on rice, and the estimates for the current year indicate that no reduction in costs can be expected.

Since the end of the year the Company has disposed of an area of 1,300 acres at Kota Bahroe. The circular to shareholders fully stated the reasons for making the sale and I think there is no occasion to say anything further except perhaps to congratulate ourselves that negotiations for the sale were concluded before the serious depression in the rubber market occurred.

With the report and accounts the Directors have issued a circular regarding a proposed reconstruction of the Company. Although exchange recently has become more favourable, the low price of rubber has more than off-set this improvement, and the Directors consider that the capital of Tls. 1,106,873.62 is far too high, amounting as it does at present exchange to over £260,000 and makes any prospect of a return to shareholders very remote. The proposed reduction to Tls. 390,000 is perhaps rather drastic, but the sterling equivalent at present exchange is £95,000, only £35,000 less than the original capital of the Company.

Prospects at the moment are so unfavourable that the Directors consider that any scheme of reconstruction should err on the safe side and assure as far as is possible the future position of the Company. At the present price of rubber there is, of course, a loss on working but a recovery would appear certain, and though exchange may again go against us, at a small margin of profit on rubber, the Company, on a capital of Tls. 390,000, will probably be enabled to make a return to shareholders.

As regards the balance at credit of profit and loss account, the Directors propose writing down the buildings and other perishable assets to the nominal figure of Tls. 1 each and carry forward the balance of Tls. 70,958.24. Should you decide on a reconstruction, any surplus funds of the old company will, of course, become capital assets of the new one and cannot be distributed, and as the new company has a large amount in cash in the South the Directors contemplated the payment of some return to the shareholders in the present company before liquidation. On further consideration, however, they have decided that under present conditions it is advisable to retain any surplus cash funds and they have no doubt that shareholders will agree with them.

The capital expenditure in future years will be then amply provided for and any profits made can be distributed.

There was no discussion, and the formal resolutions were adopted.

THE RECONSTRUCTION SCHEME.

The Chairman—The only thing before the meeting now is the question of the circular which was sent round to shareholders in reference to the reconstruction scheme. I want you to fully understand that this is only a tentative proposal. Our idea in sending it out with the report and accounts was to get the views of shareholders before proceeding with the matter. Before putting the resolution asking you to express your approval that the reconstruction scheme be proceeded with, I will ask shareholders to make any comment they may wish to make.

No comment being offered, the following resolution, proposed by the Chairman and seconded by Mr. Trueman, was unanimously carried:

That it is, in the opinion of this meeting, desirable to reconstruct the Company and that the Directors be recommended to proceed with such reconstruction along the lines given in the circular to shareholders dated November 22, 1920.

The Chairman—Before we can do anything on this resolution we shall have to have an extraordinary meeting, and that will be held as soon as we have got our reconstruction scheme put fully before shareholders, who will then be able to come to the meeting and discuss it in its final form.

This was all the business of the meeting.

HALL & HOLTZ, LD.,

Debenture Issue Authorized

An extraordinary meeting of shareholders of Messrs. Hall & Holtz, Ltd., was held at the Head Office, 14 Nanking Road, on Tuesday afternoon, for the purpose of considering the subjoined resolutions:

(1) That this meeting sanctions the borrowing by the directors from time to time at their discretion for the purposes of the company any sum or sums of money provided that the total amount owing shall not exceed at any one time Tls. 600,000.

(2) That the directors be and they are hereby authorized to raise the sum of Tls. 125,000 by the issue of debentures to be in such form and to be secured in such manner and to be issued to such persons and on such terms as the directors think expedient or otherwise.

Mr. J. D. Clark presided, supported by Dr. R. S. Ivy, and Messrs. E. Moller and A. K. Craddock (directors), and W. E. Jarvis (Acting Secretary).

The notice convening the meeting having been read, the chairman said:—The purpose for which this meeting has been called is clearly shown in the resolutions and you will gather from same that we wish you to give us the necessary borrowing powers up to the amount of Tls. 600,000. At present, we hold the power to borrow Tls. 475,000, and it is with regard to the difference of Tls. 125,000 that we require your authority. We have no intention actually to raise this latter sum, we merely require to have the power to do so, to regularize our position with the Bank when financing the goods that are constantly arriving for us. As you are aware everything is now costing more than hitherto, in many instances we have to pay double, and sometimes more than double, for the goods required to keep our stock up to date, and it is obvious that we cannot keep pace with our trade on the present limited powers that were found to be amply sufficient in days gone by. Considering the condition of trade generally, I am pleased to be able to state that our business turnover is satisfactory, and we hope to be able to show good results from our trading at the end of our financial year next February. At the same time it must not be overlooked that our expenses are very heavy, and the margin of profit is not so good as it used to be. This matter, however, is engaging the serious attention of your directors, who are doing their utmost to effect the most prudent economy in the working of our business. This, gentlemen, is all I have to say with regard to the resolutions already read to you, but, before putting them to the meeting, I shall be pleased to answer to the best of my ability any questions you may wish to ask concerning them.

The resolutions were then carried, the first on the proposal of the chairman, seconded by Dr. Ivy, and the second on the proposal of the chairman, seconded by Mr. Moller.

This was all the business of the meeting.

SHANGHAI COTTON MFG. CO.

Winding Up Report

A general meeting of members of this company was held on Wednesday afternoon at the head office, No. 49 Szechuen Road, for the purposes of receiving an account showing the manner in which the winding up has been conducted and the property of the Company disposed of, and of determining by extraordinary resolution the manner of

disposition of the books, accounts and documents of the company and of the Liquidator.

Mr. E. S. Wilkinson, the Liquidator, presided, supported by Messrs John Prentice, W. J. N. Dyer, H. Morris, and R. N. Macleod, and the attendance represented 31,211 shares of the old company.

The Chairman said:—Gentlemen, Before proceeding with the formal business of the meeting I would like to refer to the absence of my co-liquidator, Mr. Norman Thomson; Mr. Thomson had intended to leave for home at the end of June but, as the transfer of the assets of this Company was not completed at that date he remained here until August 28; by the latter date all matters connected with the reconstruction had been completed and it was therefore not considered necessary to further defer Mr. Thomson's leave.

The accounts now laid before you have been in your hands for some time and, with your permission, I will take them as read.

As mentioned in the Report, I have retained the usual form of account as far as possible so as to preserve the continuity of the Company's records for future reference. The distribution of the nett profit for the year ended June 30 last (Tls. 3,403,308.47) is detailed on the first page of the printed report; these figures are also dealt with in the appropriation and liquidation accounts, the latter account showing details of the liquidation expenses. In connexion with these expenses, it should be noted that it was at first anticipated that the undertaking would have to be sold by tender, and all arrangements were completed for carrying such a sale into effect, thus necessitating certain surveys and valuations and the preparation of detailed schedules of the company's assets and liabilities. As you are aware, an agreement was subsequently arrived at between all shareholders which made the transfer of the whole property to a new Company practicable in accordance with the provisions of Section 185 of the Companies Ordinance. The two balance sheets now presented show how this transfer was carried into effect and I trust these figures will make the position clear to you. These balance sheets do not appear to me to call for any particular comment, with the exception of a new item under the heading of "Staff Provident Fund" (Tls. 62,000) which I would like to explain to you.

The employees of your Company were engaged by the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha and, in accordance with Japanese custom, they had no contracts which would enable them to claim compensation if their services were dispensed with by reason of a voluntary liquidation or any similar circumstance. Under such conditions, it is the Japanese custom to make a special gift to employees if no provident fund is available for the purpose. When your Company went into liquidation there was no provident fund

from which to compensate such employees as might not have wished to serve the new Company and the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha therefore offered the sum of Tls. 62,000 for this purpose as a gift, which offer was accepted by your Directors. I am glad to state that the company has not lost any employees by reason of the liquidation and this sum named now stands in the books of the new Company to be retained for the staff and allocated to them on termination of service in accordance with the usual system based on length of service and amount of salary received.

The distribution of new shares has been carried out in accordance with the agreement for transfer of the undertaking: every shareholder on the register has been traced and has received a transfer deed for the shares due to him, signed by me as liquidator, so that all shares have passed from my legal control. Only five shareholders have failed to register their transfers and as four of these are at a distance from Shanghai, and have already signified their assent to take up their new shares, their documents will doubtless arrive through the post shortly. Should any certificates be left in my hands when the time comes for me to cease to function as liquidator, I shall apply to the Supreme Court for directions as to their disposal.

I do not think there is any need for me to refer in detail to the history of this liquidation as all matters of any importance were fully dealt with when I addressed you at the meeting held on June 30 in explaining the resolutions by which you agreed to transfer the assets of this Company to the new Japanese Company. I need only say that the difficulties which arose through differences of opinion among the shareholders were successfully overcome and there is every reason to anticipate the continued success of the Company's business in the hands of the Japanese Company.

These are the only remarks I have to make, Gentlemen, but before putting the resolution to you by which I shall ask you to pass these accounts, I will be pleased to answer any questions to the best of my ability.

Mr. H. Robertson—I should like to know why, and by whom, a liquidator's fee of Tls. 20,000 was authorized?

The Chairman—My reply to that is that the fee has been very carefully considered in view of the circumstances of the case, and this amount was agreed to.

Mr. Robertson—By whom?

The Chairman—By the directors. But that agreement was not at all necessary. This fee has been settled by myself as liquidator. It is only a question of passing the account in which this fee stands, and that I think I should prefer to leave to the shareholders.

Mr. Robertson—Will you be surprised if I tell you that it is absolutely *ultra vires* that the fee should be settled by yourself or by

the directors? You have a legal gentleman seated near you and he will quote you the section of the 1911 Act. I maintain that it is a ridiculous fee. It is an injustice, an insult, to the permanent staff of the company. The work has been practically nil. They have done all the work. The gentlemen who jointly with myself and others built up this business got a paltry sum of Tls. 10,000 as honorarium after 17 years' work, and you get Tls. 20,000 for half an hour's work. Two were appointed, one disappears, yet of course we pay his fee. You had better reduce your fee to a nominal sum.

The Chairman—Is that all you have to say?

Mr. Robertson—I have a great deal more to say yet.

The Chairman—Have you finished with your question?

Mr. Robertson—Yes.

The Chairman—It will be dealt with in the passing of the accounts.

Mr. Robertson then entered upon a long speech, criticising various matters. He maintained that there had not been a liquidation to speak of. Such a name was a misnomer and a misrepresentation. That there were claims and demands against the company was generally known, and these had been for years the subject of comment in terms of dissatisfaction as between shareholders, and were in existence to this day. Inquiries had been made which had never been satisfactorily met. In particular, Mr. Robertson referred to certain machinery, of which he gave the history, and in respect of which he held that shareholders should be given much needed satisfaction. The company ought not to be dissolved until this had been done.

The Chairman, interposing at one point in the speech, informed Mr. Robertson that his remarks were entirely out of order. He was referring to matters prior to the period of liquidation, and that was a liquidator's meeting.

Mr. Robertson—I beg to say I consider I am in order. I intend to have my say. If I am denied it here, I shall be forced to seek it elsewhere.

The Chairman—If you insist, of course we shall listen. I am just reminding you that you are out of order.

Mr. Robertson proceeded with his speech, and finally suggested that the meeting should stand adjourned until such time as the agents came forward with a proposition, stating what solatium they intended to give to aggrieved shareholders.

The Chairman, in reply, said he had already dealt with the question of the liquidator's fee. The matter had run over eight months and there had been a great many difficulties to overcome. The matter had all been agreed upon, and he would simply ask them to deal with it in passing the accounts. With regard to the claims of creditors, Mr. Robertson had mentioned section 181 of the Com-

panies' Ordinance. The matter was duly dealt with at the correct time in accordance with section 181, the meeting being held on May 28, and duly advertised. No claims were brought forward at that meeting. All claims that had come forward had been dealt with in the ordinary manner, and at the present time they had no claims they considered they were legally liable for. The latter part of Mr. Robertson's speech dealing with the history of the company from 1914 onwards he considered entirely out of order, inasmuch as Mr. Robertson was dealing with a period before commencement of the liquidation, matters with which the meeting then had nothing to do. They were now dealing with the period covered by the accounts before the meeting, and he had no further remarks to offer upon them. He would like to say, however, that although they had on the register, when it was closed during liquidation, 135 shareholders of various nationalities—and he had had a great deal to do with a large number of shareholders—no complaint of any sort had been brought forward as to the manner in which the liquidation was being conducted. On the contrary, he had received the very strong support of all shareholders in dealing with all matters, so that he had no fear in putting forward the resolutions before the meeting.

Mr. Robertson, referring to the meeting mentioned by the Chairman, said it was advertised but never held on account of proceedings in the Supreme Court. He believed this was the meeting in question. As to there being "no objection" he might tell them he was there to object. He knew other shareholders who were very much dissatisfied. The whole procedure, beginning from January of this year, the whole thing, had been mismanaged. It was a crying disgrace to Shanghai. The company had been put to enormous expense when the whole thing could have been settled in half an hour by a friendly interview between the leading shareholders who were ready to do it and offered their services. The answer was: "No, we must have the law on the question." They had had the law. The law was against the company, and (said Mr. Robertson) "here we are to-day." There were shareholders in Shanghai who would never come forward and express their dissatisfaction; people who had larger holdings than himself but who would not come forward to give expression to their dissatisfaction. He maintained that the fee should be reduced. It was a crying injustice that such a fee should be paid, and they were not acting in accordance with the law. According to the provisions of the ordinance, shareholders should fix the fee of the liquidator, or liquidators. He asked that it should be fixed, and was told to "let it slide." With what result? An iniquitous fee of Tls. 20,000.

The Chairman—I am about to ask the meeting to pass accounts

including that fee.

Mr. Robertson—I have no doubt the meeting will pass it. But I will not vote for it. This meeting should be adjourned until the agents can come forward with a proposition to satisfy the aggrieved shareholders.

The Chairman—If shareholders pass the accounts now as they stand, they will entirely dispose of the question of the fee, and all these other questions.

Mr. Robertson—They will not dispose of them so far as I am concerned.

Mr. Prentice then proposed, and Mr. E. Hayim seconded, the following resolution:—"That the accounts submitted to this meeting showing the manner in which the winding up has been conducted and the property of the company disposed of be received and adopted."

The resolution was carried with one dissentient—Mr. Robertson, who observed: Please note, gentlemen, I protest emphatically against the proceedings.

The following resolution was also carried, on the proposal of Mr. Prentice, seconded by Mr. Hayim:—"That the books, accounts and documents of the Company and of the Liquidator thereof be handed over to the Shanghai Boshoku Kabushiki Kwaisha."

SHANGHAI SANITARY LAUNDRY CO., LD.

The first annual general meeting of the Shanghai Sanitary Laundry Co., Ltd., was held on Wednesday afternoon in the offices of the secretaries and general managers, Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co., when Mr. G. M. W. Hummel presided.

In the course of his speech the Chairman said:—

Referring to the accounts, there is one item especially which I think needs some explanation, i.e., Tls. 11,696.67 carried forward to the debit of Profit and Loss Account. As the work of erecting the plant and machinery was not completed until September this year, about 83 per cent. of this figure is essentially preliminary expenses, and should be shown as such; but unfortunately no provision was made for additional preliminary expenses to those stated in the accounts passed at the statutory meeting, and therefore all expenses since then, excepting actual building, plant and machinery costs must be placed to the debit of Profit and Loss Account. Practically the whole of our "plant and machinery accessories, etc." were bought at a very favourable rate of exchange to the Company (Gold \$125 per Tls. 100) and the equivalent value of this item at the exchange (Gold \$82½ per Tls. 100) ruling at the date the books were closed is Tls. 14,116 more than is shown in the accounts. Similarly with the item "cash at Hongkong & Shanghai Bank, San Francisco, G.\$6,247.22— if re-converted into Taels on November 30, 1920, the value of this asset would be Tls. 2,547

more than is stated in the accounts.

We have to thank the Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation for supplying necessary working capital by allowing us to overdraw our account, to cover which we have deposited with them the title deeds for our property. We hope that as the superiority of our laundry work is demonstrated, the public will come forward and add to their support in sending us their laundry work and by also taking shares in the Company, so that we may not be hampered by a lack of necessary working capital.

PROGRESS OF THE WORK.

Your Chairman at the statutory meeting on September 15 last year reported the purchase of the building site and the contracts entered into for buildings, plant, machinery, etc., and I will now give you a brief outline of the progress of work since then. At that time it was expected that the whole of our laundry plant and machinery would be shipped from San Francisco before the end of October, 1919, but owing to congestion of freight on the railways and inadequate tonnage, the greater portion of it had not come to hand when Mr. H. A. Nicholson, the expert sent out by the suppliers to erect the plant, arrived in Shanghai on the first of the new year. This hampered progress, but not seriously, as construction work on the building was frequently held up owing to non-weather working days, and it was late in March before the concrete flooring was properly set to enable Mr. Nicholson to proceed with the work of erecting the plant. Delay was again met with owing to the late arrival of the boiler. Your Directors had, prior to Mr. Nicholson's arrival, purchased a Cochrane standard patent boiler which, according to local experts' opinion, seemed to be ample for the laundry's requirements, but after further considerable consultation Mr. Nicholson considered this boiler was quite inadequate for the successful running of the plant when at full pressure, and therefore another boiler had to be purchased at that late hour, which was no easy matter in view of the urgency of immediate delivery. As a result the present boiler in use, a 100 H. P. return tubular type from the Frost Manufacturing Co., Chicago, was not delivered until the latter part of June, preventing any trial of the plant until the last week in August. Practically the whole of the machinery and fittings have now been installed and are in working order, and the complete equipment of the works will be effected very shortly.

The works building has now been completed and is an imposing structure which has allowed the present plant to be erected upon what now seems a most satisfactory plan, and ample room has been provided for considerable extensions when our business grows, as we hope it may. A comfortable and well arranged flat for the manager has been built above one wing of the works and will soon be ready for occupation.

Shortly after the first trial of the machinery the laundry was in a position to accept experimental work in order to train the Chinese to handle the various machines. An arrangement was made with the management of the Astor House to take in a certain amount of their laundry work free of charge, and with a view to securing later the whole of the work of the Shanghai Hotels, Ltd. I am glad to say that the Shanghai Hotels, Ltd., have now agreed to contract with us.

Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co. were appointed secretaries and general managers of the Company on January 1, 1920, and from that date took over such duties from Mr. C. F. McWilliams. Prior to that date, Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co. did a considerable amount of work in an unofficial capacity in organizing the flotation of the Company.

The Board of Directors wish to record their appreciation of the advisory committee's services to the Company, and to thank them in the name of the Company for their help. From January 7, 1920, the Board of Directors considered that the duties and responsibilities of the advisory committee ceased, in accordance with the conditions of the prospectus of the Company, the Company having then been incorporated and actually commenced business.

In view of the present financial position of the Company, the directors (with the exception of one director who received his fee upon his resignation and departure from Shanghai) have waived all fees due to them from the formation of the Company up to November 30, 1920.

There were no questions and the formal resolutions were adopted.

EWOT COTTON MILL

A Prosperous Year

CHAIRMAN ON PROSPECTS OF THE INDUSTRY

The twenty-fifth ordinary general meeting of shareholders in the Ewo Cotton Spinning & Weaving Co., Ltd., was held on Thursday at the offices of the General Managers, Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., Ltd. There were present: Messrs. A. Brooke Smith (Chairman), E. E. Clark, C. Gordon Mackie, and Zee Quan-yuen (Members of Consulting Committee), Jas. Harrop, J. Spunt, J. Boyce Kup, A. J. Welch, E. M. Ross, G. H. Potts, J. Prentice, A. Woods, F. J. Burrett, B. A. Clarke, E. O. Cumming, N. L. Sparke, R. Lemarchand, C. E. Marsden, E. Hayim, Pan Ching-poo, Pan Tse-chuen, and Woo Ling-shu. Mr. C. W. Beswick acted as Secretary.

The notice convening the meeting having been read,

The Chairman said: Gentlemen, the report and statement of accounts having been in your hands for the past ten days, I will, with your permission, take them as read.

It gives the General Managers and the Consulting Committee great pleasure to present such a highly satisfactory result of last year's working, the profit being Tls. 2,129,741.75, which exceeds our previous record by some 50 per cent.

At the commencement of our past financial year, trading conditions were most favourable, as there was a brisk demand for our mill products at high prices, and we were able to manufacture profitably, owing to comparatively cheap cotton. Since the late Spring, however, the deflation in the values of most commodities throughout the world, and also the Japanese financial crisis, have reacted on this market and the trend of prices has been continually downward. In local cotton yarn, this has been particularly pronounced—as an instance, our 20s. "5 Men" chop was selling in February for Tls. 235/240 per bale, whereas early in October it was only fetching Tls. 135, recovering within a fortnight to Tls. 165, but now nominally Tls. 148. Demand for yarn, however, has been consistently steady, and, as we have been able to keep our order book well filled, we have come through without any losses in this branch of our business.

In cloth we have not been so fortunate, as the handsome profits we were making during the earlier part of our year have been somewhat discounted by the losses we have since sustained owing to a few defaulting dealers. In view of the very serious crisis through which the piece goods trade in China is now passing, we have dealt drastically with stocks of cloth in our accounts, and we trust that we have provided for the worst.

Cotton throughout our past year has been plentiful and reasonably cheap, considering the high prices of mill products. The China crop was considerably smaller than usual, owing to unfavourable weather conditions, but, with high exchange rates ruling and Japan being over-stocked with Indian and American grades, there was little export from China, and local mills were readily able to obtain their supplies of fair quality. Useful grades of Indians were also available at cheap rates, but good varieties of American were comparatively dear owing to the general poor quality of their last crop. During the past few months, all cotton prices have declined very heavily, and we may consider ourselves rather fortunate in not having had to carry forward too large a stock at the dear prices. As usual, our stock has been taken over at cost, but with two lakhs of taels at credit of Cotton Fluctuation Fund we can view the future with equanimity.

As regards the allocation of the profits, I trust the recommendations of the Consulting Committee will have your approval.

The dividend of 7 per cent. on the Preference Shares is, of course, the first charge on our profits and calls for no comment.

The proposed final Dividend of Tls. 66 on the Ordinary Shares, with the interim dividend of Tls. 22, makes a total of Tls. 90 per share and represents slightly more than 54 per cent. of the year's profits, which we feel sure will be satisfactory to shareholders. In this connexion your Consulting Committee consider that so long as our reserves are maintained at their present level the Company can afford to be liberal in regard to dividends.

The proposal to write off Tls. 100,000 and Tls. 50,000 from plant and machinery and buildings respectively, is the same as last year and in accordance with our custom of allowing liberally for depreciation, which also applies to the small items of Tls. 218.60 and Tls. 1,000 off water supply and furniture respectively.

In view of the decline to 92 per cent. of the 1919 issue of Municipal Debentures, for a lakh of which we paid 95 per cent., our Auditors recommend that we write down our holding by Tls. 2,500 in order to bring this investment down to market value.

The Tls. 50,000 allocated to special repairs and renewals fund will bring the balance of this account to Tls. 124,677.86, and will enable us to maintain our policy of keeping the mills up to the fullest state of efficiency. In the near future we shall have to spend somewhat liberally on the property of the No. 1 Mill, and also renew and enlarge the sanitary and other arrangements for our native operatives.

The proposal to subscribe Tls. 20,000 to War Funds is similar to last year, when our donation was most gratefully acknowledged by those in charge of the King's Fund for the Disabled, and I think we cannot do better than again support this fund.

The proposed bonus of Tls. 50,000 to be divided amongst the foreign and native staffs at the mills has been well earned, and will, I have no doubt, be greatly appreciated.

Our contingency against the increasing number of employees who qualify for the benefits of the Chinese Superannuation Fund inaugurated last year will be covered by the provision of Tls. 20,000.

The issue of the whole of the remaining 5,000 Ordinary Shares that was sanctioned last January has now been completed, and the balance at credit of Share Premium Account in connexion therewith amounts to Sh. Tls. 763,131.20, which is made up of the premium of Tls. 145 per share, and profit on 144 unclaimed shares sold for the benefit of the Company. I propose, with your sanction, that this sum shall be placed to Reserve Fund, bringing that fund up to Tls. 1,263,131.20.

Including the foregoing, our various Reserve Funds will aggregate Tls. 2,087,809.06, which, on an Ordinary Share Capital of Tls. 1,000,000, may be considered highly satisfactory.

During the past year, the matter of insurance against loss of profit resulting from fire has been satis-

factorily arranged on the basis of the average profit for the previous three years.

The expansion of our business and the constant strain of day and night work on our plant and machinery have rendered it necessary for us to make purchases of new machinery for our spinning mills to the value of about £60,000 or £70,000. Owing to the maker's heavy engagements, we shall not be able to obtain delivery for 15 or 16 months—the prices were undoubtedly high compared with our original equipment, although we have been assisted to some extent by higher exchange.

We have also purchased an additional 85 looms to completely fill our second weaving shed; these have recently arrived and will presently be working.

In order to keep abreast of the times, and also to relieve the strain on our old steam power plant, we are arranging to drive the No. 1 Mill by electricity to be obtained from the Shanghai Municipal Council. As we are already large consumers of electrical power in our various departments, we consider that some support of the Council's enterprise in this connexion is due from such concerns as this Company, and we therefore invested in Sh. Tls. 100,000 worth of 7 per cent. Municipal Debentures 1919.

During the past year the Customs abolished the coast trade duty, that is, the half tariff duty on import of Chinese raw cotton, which marked a welcome step on the part of the Chinese Government towards fostering the cotton mill industry in China. It is to be hoped that they will shortly be able to see their way to abolish the whole of the inland taxation at present imposed on the raw material and the finished products of factories in China.

The past year has been a difficult one for all employers of native labour, but we have anticipated any serious troubles by two substantial advances in wages to meet the higher cost of living.

As regards future prospects, I am afraid that the universal financial stringency, and the decline in the values of all commercial commodities, must exert a depressing influence upon our business for some time to come, but of the future success and expansion of the cotton industry in China there can be no doubt, and I trust we shall shortly experience better trading conditions. Theoretically, low exchange should benefit cotton mills in China, but I would remind you that record profits were made when silver was at its zenith.

We have received a petition signed by a number of shareholders representing 8,195 Ordinary Shares, asking that each of the Ordinary Tls. 50 Shares of the Company be divided into ten shares of Tls. 5 each. I may mention that a similar petition is also expected from shareholders in Hongkong, and when that is received, the matter will receive the

consideration of the Consulting Committee.

The formal resolutions were adopted.

Mr. Brodie A. Clarke said the thanks of shareholders were due to their worthy chairman and members of the advisory board for the manner in which they had looked after shareholders' interests during the past year. The chairman's speech had been very interesting, and he was sure they would all agree they could not leave their interests in better hands than those which had so ably conducted the business of the company through a year of unrest. They would all join him in thanking the Board sincerely for what they had done. (Applause)

Mr. Brooke Smith, in reply, thanked all present for the very nice way in which they had received Mr. Clarke's remarks, which were greatly appreciated by the Consulting Committee. They had had a very difficult time, as Mr. Clarke had said, and he dared say that in the future they would very likely encounter more difficulties; at the same time, he had no doubt that the Ewo mill would be able to hold its head up, through most inactive times and would be in a position to do well when trade was robust again. He did not wish shareholders to think they were doing badly at the present time. All cotton mills in Shanghai were able to hold their heads up in spite of trade in other directions being very poor, and he hoped that when they met again next year they would be able to show a satisfactory report—although he did not think they could reasonably expect to show the profit which they had shown for the past 12 months. (Applause).

CLUBS AND SOCIETIES

CHINESE TRACT SOCIETY

Trustees' Meeting

The 42nd annual meeting of the Trustees was held on Thursday last in the home of Dr. A. P. Parker, No. 19 Quinsan Road.

The General Secretary reported that during the past year owing to lack of funds only some five new books had been issued amounting to 39,000 copies. The chief of these were in the phonetic script amounting to 35,000 copies.

Thirty-one books and tracts were reprinted amounting to 484,000 copies or 4,426,318 pages.

The Society's magazine "Chinese Illustrated News" had continued to meet with a good sale. Some 15,600 copies being ordered from various parts of the Republic and abroad.

The circulation for the year was 446,807 copies or 5,366,359 pages.

The total income from all sources was \$5,356.90.

Steps were taken with the view to amalgamation with the other tract societies in China. The

Board of Directors being empowered to arrange this during the coming year.

INTERNATIONAL CHESS CLUB

Annual Meeting

There is an excellent story of a chess enthusiast who was much given to attack. On one occasion, when left with only his king on the board, he is reported to have said: "I shall continue to attack you, sir."

It was with some such enthusiasm that the annual general meeting of the International Chess Club was held on Wednesday night, with Dr. S. M. Cox in the chair, but with more prospect of success.

In putting the report and accounts to the meeting Dr. Cox explained that the meeting was really several rolled into one, as the last was held in 1916. Due to the war, interest had gradually evaporated, members could not give the necessary time, and meetings were suspended. Now that the war was over and many old friends and new faces were in Shanghai, they saw every prospect of a big future for the club.

Several of the old members of the club laid great stress on its international character. The rules allowed and welcomed all nationalities, and many of the competitions in the past had been fought internationally. Representatives of Portugal, America, Great Britain and Czecho-Slovakia were elected on the Committee, but it will be seen that there are still other nationalities that the club would welcome.

OFFICERS FOR THE YEAR.

A large attendance enthusiastically elected the following officials for the coming year: Dr. S. M. Cox, President; Mr. R. Chester, Vice-president; Mr. G. O. Jackson, Hon. Secretary and Treasurer; Messrs. H. M. Mann, A. E. Gutierrez, J. M. P. Remedios, C. B. Morrison, M. V. Diamant, and E. H. Shibleth, Committee.

The subscription was reduced to \$10. The present quarters at the Rowing Club, Soochow Road, were voted adequate for the time being, but it was hoped that, with the influx of new members, more suitable quarters will be obtained in the near future. All visitors will receive a warm welcome on any club night, Monday, Wednesday or Friday.

At the close Mr. Lockhart referred in feeling terms to the absence of their late president, Sir Havilland de Sausmarez. He referred to the earliest days of the club, in 1905, when, shortly after he became president of the club, knighthood was conferred upon him, and a clever caricature by Mr. Hayter depicted Sir Havilland as a knight on the chessboard. The Secretary was directed to convey the feelings of the meeting to Sir Havilland, and the meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to the late committee and to Dr. Cox for taking the chair.

SPORT

SHANGHAI RIFLE ASSOCIATION

International Rifle Match

This annual match took place on Sunday, the 13th instant, at 2 p.m. in favourable weather conditions. Ten teams competed and victory went again to the Americans, who made the fine score of 278 points. The Japanese were second with 273, and the Swiss third with 266. The Americans, Japanese, Swiss and Irish ran very close at the first ranges, with 145, 143, 142 and 137, respectively. At the last range the Americans, Japanese and Swiss were top. At this range the Irish fell heavily, scoring only 114. That the French team came last may be accounted for by the fact that they were shooting with open sights, while the other teams were using the aperture and Lyman sights. C. Luthy, of the Swiss team, was highest scorer, with 97 points out of 100, and C. Luthy, M. Conlon and R. K. Hykes scored possibles at 300 yd.

ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL

Shanghai Football League

The following are the results of the League matches played on Saturday last, the 11th instant:—

Firs' Division.

St. Francis Xavier's F. C., 3 goals; Shanghai Football Club, 2 goals.

Shanghai Recreation Club, 4 goals; S. M. Police, 1 goal.

Second Division.

Customs F. C., 5 goals; Engineers F. C., 0.

Shanghai Public School, 5 goals; The Navy, 2 goals.

International F. C., 1 goal; St. Xavier's 2nd XI, 0.

Recreation Club 2nd XI, 9 goals; Jewish Recreation Club, 0.

Oxford Defeats Cambridge at Soccer

London, Dec. 11.

Oxford University, following up their success against Cambridge in the Rugby match last week, defeated Cambridge under Association rules at the Queens' Club to-day, by 2 goal to 1.

The cross-country running event between these Universities was also decided to-day, and resulted in a win for Oxford by 21 points to 34. The first three men home were: Montague (Oxford), whose time was 42 min. 56 sec.; McInnes (Oxford), 43 min. 5 sec., and Seagrove (Cambridge), 43 min. 37 sec.—Reuter.

RUGBY FOOTBALL

Shanghai Rugby F. C.: Whites v. Colours.

This match was played on the Shanghai Cricket Club's ground last Saturday, an interesting game resulting, in a victory for the Colours by two goals and a try (13 points) to one goal (five points).

BOXING

The Moran-Beckett Fight

London, Dec. 10.

In the twenty-round heavyweight contest at the Albert Hall to-night, Frank Moran (America) knocked out Joe Beckett (England) in the second round.—Reuter.

London, Dec. 11.

In his contest against Frank Moran, at the Albert Hall last night, Joe Beckett did well in the first round, getting home with the right to the jaw and ribs, and with left hooks to the head. Moran got in a right to the body, but later missed a right swing, and took a left hook to the jaw.

In the second round the exchanges were fairly even. Moran was warned for holding. Then, in some in-fighting, Moran landed terrific right upper-cuts to the point, knocking out his opponent.—Reuter.

Baseball Re-organization

New York, Dec. 11.

The greatest baseball convention ever assembled has just opened here; its programme includes a complete re-organization of the rules and regulations of the sport.

Advices from Los Angeles state that a Grand Jury there has returned an indictment charging five players with criminal conspiracy in the Pacific Coast League 1919 series.—Reuter.

Big Hitting in Australian Cricket

Sydney, Dec. 9.

The match here between New South Wales and South Australia in the Australian cricket series produced some very remarkable batting by the home side, who compiled no less than 802 runs. Bogle contributed 103 to this total, Kellenay 168 and Bardsley 235. Kellenay and Bardsley scored 397 whilst in together; this constitutes a record for a fifth wicket partnership. Bardsley's timing was faultless: his innings included 28 fours.

South Australia could only put together 191: (Pellew 73).

The match had to be abandoned on account of rain.—Reuter.

It is reported that General Chang Hsun shortly will be appointed to the post of director-general of the Afforestation Bureau of the Three Eastern Provinces. A nice quiet occupation—planting trees!

Special Articles

THE RUIN OF EXCESS

Notes of a sermon preached by the Rev. C. E. Darwent in Union Church, Tientsin, on the evening of November 21. Text. I. Peter IV. 4. "Wherein they think it strange ye run not with them in the same excess of riot."

Peter is addressing a people, possibly half-heathen and half-Jewish, which had become Christian. Christ had suffered to deliver them from that thing that drives statesmen frantic by the problems it raises—sin. The ruin it creates is so enormous that He had had to suffer to save them. Further He had had to "suffer in the flesh." A modern commander-in-chief issues his orders miles behind the fighting line. He has to do so. He cannot fight in the front as they did in olden times. Man has to do the best he can. He cannot always do the ideal thing. Christ did. Peter says He "suffered in the flesh." That is He went "over the top" himself. He didn't inspire prophets to come and warn us. He came. He suffered on the cross. He himself went down into the thick of the battle. If that tremendous fact that the Son of God died for you does not affect your conduct it is doubtful if you are a Christian at all. This people did believe it. And Peter says that, believe it, there were two things that were bound to happen: they would have a new faith, namely in Christ, but also a *new idea of life*. They would see that they must have a whole new manner of living. That was it. Peter names horrid things that they will have to give up: lasciviousness, lusts, wine-bibbings, revelings, carousings. And he sums them all up in this phrase, "*excess of riot*." Peter says the rest of the world "thinks it strange that they do not run with them in excess of riot."

THE CHURCH'S PURPOSE.

We may begin by noting the fact, that discussions are eternal on the subject of what is called "the prevailing indifference to religion." It would be a marvel if that subject did not come up at a convention of any religious body. And very naturally too. Because the church has no other purpose in the world than to turn indifference to religion into enthusiasm for it. The matter, Peter says, is urgent, for we shall all "give account to him that is ready to judge the quick and dead." Almost everything that man does has been stigmatized as the culprit, responsible for man's godlessness. "Dangerous" is the label, that has been put upon almost every form of human activity. The Trappist monks, as I understand, eat their meals in silence, and speak as little as possible, because when a man or a woman talks he or she

lets the tongue wag irresponsibly. We all know that we have all said atrocious things about people, ill-natured things, cruel things, exaggerated things, bad things. Unless God is infinitely merciful where is any one of us going to stand? Still, we do not believe that the Christian way of avoiding the sins of the tongue is practically to cut it out. And so dancing, singing,—except hymn-singing—theatres, cards, novel reading, hunting, and even making any money at all have been dubbed unchristian. It is indeed hard to say what has not been adduced as the foul culprit that has seduced man from his allegiance to God. There was "Lang Tammas," if my memory serves me rightly, who suspected that the minister smoked. He lay at full length on the Manse garden wall, where he could look right into the minister's study. And he got him. Sure enough the minister was smoking. Then there is drink and a whole host of things too numerous to mention; wise people have said if we can only get rid of one or all the millennium would be just about here.

A SANER DIAGNOSIS.

I think, however, that Peter gives us a much saner diagnosis of the case. Peter says, it is a case of *excess*, "excess of riot." That is the trouble. We are such fools that we do not know when to draw the line. That is it. Let us look at Peter's diagnosis of our case. It may be to our very great advantage. What is excess? It is "that which exceeds a measure or limit"; it is the transgression of due limits. It is different from superfluity. That is something that you do not need at all. Half a ton of sugar would be an excessive amount for my Manse, but a set of gold serving trays would be a wicked superfluity. Some sugar is all right, gold trays are not right at all. There are several other similar words, but I think that they all imply more moral blame. There are immoderate and intemperate. They, as it has been said, "always mark a positively great degree of excess." But here is the point I am getting at now. Excess always seems to imply too much of a good and in itself legitimate thing, too much of what may even be a good gift of God. Please notice this very carefully. Excess is mostly Ruin caused by a Good Thing. Rain—we need rain. Here in Tientsin we need it very much, seeing we have had only some poor five inches this year. But two years ago you had an excess of it. You went to business in boats; your houses were flooded and spoiled. Your gardens have not got over it yet. Rain is a great gift of God, but too much is

as ruinous almost as too little. And now notice particularly, that an excess of the very best of things seems to turn them into bad things. In excess the best things become a curse. It is as old Blair, the Scottish preacher of 150 years ago, wisely says, "It is wisely ordained that joy and fear, hope and grief, should act alternately, as balances and checks one on the other, in order to prevent an excess of any one of them." Sunshine is good, like rain, but too much of it creates a famine. The Bible says some sorrow is good. It keeps us from getting hard. But too much sorrow, as Shakespeare says, does harm; "Excessive grief is the enemy of the living." I once knew a woman, who gave up all interest in Christianity, because her daughter died; a sort of tit-for-tat to the Almighty himself. This was a case of a soul lost through illegitimate indulgence in a perfectly legitimate thing.

STARVATION OF THE HIGHER LIFE.

And here is the whole answer to the question, why, if there is a decay in interest in religion, there is such a decay. What is wrong with thousands of people is just this. Their higher life is being starved, their mental life is being famished through excessive indulgence in the lower, though in their place, legitimate things of life. The tremendous tragedy of life is, that you do not need to do what we call positively wicked things to become a lost soul; not at all; you only need to give yourself wholly to things that are quite good in their place, things, indeed, that are God's choice gifts, but are not the highest and you are as much lost to all that is divine and holy, as if you had been a wicked man. It is not only burglars, murderers, assassins, drunkards, who are lost. Not at all. We can be lost through excess of respectable indulgence of the senses as by indulgence of them that is not respectable. It is just the same with the religious life as with the intellectual life. Take that as a plain illustration. The mind needs thought to nourish it just as much as the body does food. But there are people who never read a book that needs a bit of brain-sweat to take it in. All they read is light and shallow stuff. The result is that which happened to the great Horace Walpole. His life was spent in political jobbery; in his time bribery was the rule; he was in the thick of vote buying and selling, and every intrigue. When an old man he was wheeled into his great library and, as he took down one book after another, he burst into tears, exclaiming; "I can't read these any more." His mind had lost its capacity for taking in great and deep thoughts to say nothing of spiritual thoughts. Ex-

cess of superficial politics had atrophied his mental powers; and that is a thing that is going on every-day among men.

AND THE CAUSE.

So it is with religion. Man is a creature made "in the image of God" We all agree on that. The actual unbelievers are a ridiculously small remnant. The mass of our people believe in God, in the soul and its life. On Armistice Day we all sang, "Oh God our help in ages past" and the people, who never darken the doors of a place of worship, sang it too. And they sang it quite sincerely. No one denies that. At least I do not. It was most impressive was the volume of sound from two or three thousand throats in that great confession of faith in God. Why then do not the men and women who sang that so heartily on Armistice Day, delight to go to church and sing it on ordinary days of praise and worship? They enjoyed singing it on that day; why is it not a constant pleasure to them to praise God for his goodness? In the great majority of cases and certainly it is the case out here, the reason is given in Peter's words, "excess of riot," a riotous excess of more physical titillation and enjoyment, which is altogether in excess of any need of exercise the body requires. That is it. Tennyson puts the matter with unanswerable force:—

"For what are men better than sheep
and goats,
That nourish a blind life within the
brain,
If, knowing God, they lift not hands
of prayer,
Both for themselves, and those who
call them friends?
For so the whole round earth is every
way
Bound by golden chains about the
foot of God."

HEALTHY ANIMALS.

Yet what thousands there are who come under the poet's sarcasm! Love of physical exercise drives out of them all prayer, praise, worship, all thought about the eternal things, that man was made to know and get strength from. They are, as far as one can judge, just healthy animals. The thing to notice is that the things they give themselves to wholly in "excess," as Peter says, are rare good things in themselves, but becoming the "be-all and end-all" of existence have become curses, engines of soul destruction. Cases of this from actual life put this so unanswerably. I remember last summer hearing two young fellows discussing what they would do the following day, which was a Sunday. It was at the swimming bath, that I overheard it. One said to the other, "I shall be here all day." Well, I thought, that is a case of excess. Swimming is a fine exercise. I swim myself. I shall be sure that I am an old man, when I have ceased to be able to stay an hour in the sea, swimming. But a whole Sunday spent in a bathing suit, not swimming all the time. These people spend three parts of the time lolling on a chair. But all Sunday! What about the

soul? What about the mind? Do not they need some exercise as well as the body? It is all such a preposterous cultivation of only one side of a man's constitution; one asks, would it a happier Sunday for such men to go to church and thank God for the strong body, and health which enable them to swim at all? Has the Christ faded out of such men's souls altogether? Is He nobody? Has He lived and died in vain? Is it a myth and huge error that a wise man will remember that we do not live in this world for ever. There is a future life. There will be no lolling all day in a cool swimming-bath there. That whole idea of life as a thing to be given to nothing but physical enjoyment is a topsy-turvy idea, a crazy idea that none but those who have given up all thinking can hold.

ABUSE OF GOOD THINGS.

I remember also another case. I asked two or three young fellows whether they had been ill on Sunday, as I had not seen them at church. They all said they were "too tired" to come to church on Sunday evening. As I knew that business is slack I thought, "it cannot be brain-fag, as the result of too much office work;" so I said, "What has tired you so?" They said, "We were playing golf all the morning and afternoon, and were too tired to attend church at night." There is my whole sermon in that case. "Excess of riot" of golf. Golf, an excellent game. I do not play it myself but many better men than I am do; a royal game, a grand game; but all day! All day! Not to have left themselves sufficient energy to take a ricsha to go and thank God for his mercies, to pray, to do something for the other parts of their nature, the mind, the soul. I remember one of the best golfers in Shanghai saying to me that he wished there was a close season for golf as for

other games, he was sometimes sick of it. No wonder. What are "men better than sheep and goats" if their whole energy is given to mere titillation of the fleshy part of them? Books nothing, thought nothing, religion nothing! No nation is ever going to be great out of men like these who are no more than healthy animals. So it is with other forms of diversion. Most of them are excellent. There is riding. No doubt an excellent form of exercise. I have tried it myself. There is nothing like it. But the excess of it on this coast! Politics, art, music, religion are all swept out of some men's minds by ponies. They talk, think pony. A good thing turned into an engine of destruction of the mind and soul. It is so at present with dancing and other things. They have lost their proper function of being forms of relaxation, and have become obsessions and idolatries. See to it. Beware of excess. Beware of turning the good gifts of God into things that make you lose your soul, for such is the perversity of man, that through excess he can defeat the whole object of his Creator. He can so indulge in things of sense, that he blocks all windows in his soul turned to eternity, dethrones the Living God from his rightful place and "tramples on the cross of Christ and puts it to an open shame."

THERE was a run on the Tokio Chozo Bank on December 6. The main office and 15 branches in the city were practically besieged by depositors, who demanded the payment of the amount lying at their credit. There was great confusion, but it was eventually quelled, thanks to the guarantee of an advance by the Dai Hyaku Bank. There was another run on the bank later. It is said that deposits paid out by the bank amounted to Yen 9,000,000.

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MINISTERS WEARY OF OFFICE

Changes in Peking

WHAT WILL THE MILITARISTS DICTATE

By Rodney Gilbert.

(Peking, Dec. 6.

The interest of Peking's politicians is now concentrated upon an impending "Cabinet reorganization." There seems little doubt in anyone's mind that before the end of the year, the majority of the present Ministers of state will have resigned. There are several good reasons for believing this. In the first place several of the best known—that is best known to foreigners—have expressed the determination to quit to their friends.

NO MONEY AND NONE TO GET.

The shortage of public funds and the acute demand for money from a hundred quarters fills the lives of the Ministers with tribulation. So far as Peking's interest is concerned the Consortium negotiations are at an end. The foreign bankers have made it quite clear that no loan for political purposes will be made to this government under any circumstances, for the simple reason that it is not enough of a Government. Loans for constructive purposes, for the building of railways and other public works in the provinces, do not interest Peking because with expenditures supervised such loans would put nothing in Peking's treasury. The situation is clearly understood on both sides. The Chinese realize that it is a waste of time to talk about reorganization loans, and the bankers, who are not in any hurry to make loans are content to wait until China evolves a Government that is worth supporting or until she gets her affairs in such shape that she has leisure to think again of ports, railways, roads and other such prosaic matters.

Another reason for the resignation of most of the members of the present Cabinet is that they find it impossible to run a Government that will do them credit before the people and before foreign witnesses under the patronage of the militarists. Still another reason is that since the parliamentary elections are coming on and since the present Cabinet has not served the one function of raising money which the military men deem of supreme importance, the militarists themselves are beginning to think that it is about time for a change.

MILITARY INTERESTS TO PRESERVE.

Tsao Kun and company viewed the negotiations between Chang Tso-lin and the Yangtze Tuhuns Wang chan-yuan and Chi Hsieh-yuan with such alarm that they exerted all their influence to force the appointment of old General Wang Shih-chen as Super-Tuchun of the Yangtze, hoping that he would be able to check the

Manchurian overlord's spread of influence.

Chang Tso-lin has acceded to this move, not too gracefully, but it is said in Peking that he is now determined upon compensation in Chihli. He is interested in the parliamentary elections, like all the military, and because the Ministry of the Interior has a good deal to do with conducting the elections, he would like to see someone whom he can trust in that Ministry. His present representative in the Cabinet is Wang Nai-ping, Minister of Agriculture. Chang would like to have Wang Nai-ping appointed Minister of the Interior when the "Cabinet reorganization" comes and since he is in something of a hurry the reorganization cannot come too soon.

It is also rumoured that the present Minister of the Interior, who is a semi-military man and cannot easily be deprived of office because of his friends, will be compensated handsomely by an offer of the Premiership. Chang Chih-tan is built in the image of Chin Yun-peng and would be a faithful head of a Cabinet shaped to serve the interests of the Generals.

LEGATIONS LEARNING WISDOM.

There is a good deal of anxious speculation about the character of the Government which may succeed this one. The Chinese say that it will be a Chang Tso-lin Government pure and simple. From the point of view of the foreigner who likes to have friends in the Cabinet it will certainly be a worse one than the present.

It cannot be said that the Legations are seriously disturbed, however. They are taking a more farsighted view of Chinese politics than usual. A few years ago the presence of so many men kindly disposed to the Occidentals in a Cabinet would have prompted them to exert every influence to keep that particular Cabinet in power, in spite of the fact that it had no authority to do them any particular service. The old argument was that the Japanese help their friends, why shouldn't the Occidentals?

Two or three years ago this Government would have been rescued by a loan to keep it in office. The fact that the friendly Cabinet was merely the camouflage for a group of reactionary militarists and an intriguing president would have carried no weight. The Government would have got money, which money would have trickled through their fingers into the hands of the military, who in turn would have proceeded to perpetuate all the evils which retard progress in China and to which the foreigner is opposed.

It would appear now that in the Diplomatic Quarter there is really a deeper insight into Chinese affairs, and no great interest is developed when it is announced that the friendly Cabinet which has taken the responsibility for the Government run by Chang-Tso-lin and Tsao Kun is tired of its rôle of scapegoat and will give way to a

Cabinet that will be more frankly the instrument, and not the buffer, of the Tuhuns.

THE CONSORTIUM'S FIRM ATTITUDE.

The firm attitude of the Consortium proves that certain lessons have been learned. One diplomat in Peking recently remarked—"A year ago I thought that the chief virtue of the Consortium lay in its ability to finance a reorganized Chinese state; I now realize that the sole value of the Consortium lies in its ability to keep money out of China."

Foreigners are beginning to understand that foreign loans for political purposes do nothing but foster a growing evil. When a Chinese garrison threatens to mutiny after the officers who make up the pay-roll have accepted and misappropriated the pay for the whole garrison, the merchants are called upon to avert anarchy by replacing the squandered funds. In much the same spirit the Chinese Government frequently invites foreign loans. The foreigners used to respond. The attitude now is—"You threaten trouble; let it come. You will be as heavy sufferers as we and if it gets too serious we can always take over."

To the average Chinese this attitude is most disconcerting. But Chinese officialdom needs disconcerting. Nothing could be so wholesome for China as to force her to be self-reliant, to live on her own income; and this is undoubtedly the Consortium attitude. It will probably involve a nation-wide disturbance. The mutinies at Ichang and Kaoyang are omens of what is coming. The Chinese people are trembling before it, but it will be educational and, as has frequently been written, the Chinese only learn through tribulation.

KING CHANG TSO-LIN.

To come back to the prospective "Cabinet reorganization," it is assumed that the next Cabinet will be frankly a Chang Tso-lin Cabinet. Just what this means no one is prepared to say. The average Chinese believes that it will be pro-Japanese and that through devious channels the next Government will be financed by the Japanese. The new Cantonese group headed by Dr. Sun has undoubtedly been working for Chang Tso-lin's support. The scattered Anfuites are at the same time negotiating with Manchuria on the one hand and Canton on the other.

Chang Tso-lin has many defenders. No foreigner who has ever talked with him will believe that he will be prepared to make peace with the Anfuites and be a party to the re-establishment of an Anfu Government in Peking. They say that his policy is too deep for our comprehension. This may be, but a clear understanding of the character of the King of Manchuria is seriously hampered by his conduct in his own field.

AN UGLY STORY.

Evidence elicited from foreign missionaries, from Chinese officials,

from Koreans and more lately from Japanese, seems to prove that Japanese troops entered the Hungchun district after a disturbance created by bandits carefully trained by Japanese officers in the neighbourhood of Nikolsk. No sooner were they upon Chinese soil than Chang Tso-lin entered into an agreement with them by virtue of which Fengtien troops were employed to drive the Korean villagers hiding in the forests and mountains of Kirin and Fengtien out of their refuges and into the arms of the Japanese conscripts. The back blocks of Manchuria are rough country. The settlers are frontiersmen and like frontiersmen the world over they have weapons and know how to use them. The Koreans whom Chang Tso-lin is forcing into the territory where the Japanese troops are committing their abominable atrocities, are armed and when a party of Koreans encounters a party of Japanese there is inevitably a fight. Every such skirmish affords the Japanese a better excuse for continued occupation of Chinese territory, for further outrages and for the further establishment of Japanese police—three to every 20 families—throughout the borderland. This Chang Tso-lin must appreciate and must have understood before he agreed to cooperate with the Japanese and before he sent his representative to Japan to express the opinion that China's foreign policy should be a pro-Japanese policy. These are matters which may not seem to have much to do with the next Cabinet and the coming parliamentary elections, but they are prominent in the Chinese mind and strongly influence public opinion. They are given to show why the Chinese believe that the next Cabinet will be pro-Japanese and why the Anfuites will come back.

THE COMING PARLIAMENT.

Campaigning has already begun for the parliamentary elections. It is said that the Chiaotung Clique, the Anfuites combining with Chang Tso-lin, and the Chinputang championing popular aspirations are all raising money with a view to participation. No one hopes that the parliament will be representative. The greater part of the South will not participate. The majority of the members will be appointees of the militarists. And yet the people are not wholly pessimistic. The old parliament, twice disbanded, was the butt of much ridicule and vituperation while it sat in Peking, but after it was gone it was missed.

If the mere gestures of legality are gone through with, a parliament makes more fuss about the ratification of a loan or the endorsement of a Cabinet appointment than the most scrupulous Cabinet, and affords the slow-moving Chinese public the time it needs to frame and express an opinion. To reflect the thoroughly cynical attitude of the Chinese public—it may also be added that it takes more time and money to buy a parliamentary majority than it does to shape the opinion of a Cabinet.

MISSISSIPPI RIVER CHANGING COURSE

Widening of New Mouth Through Atchafalaya

New Orleans, Nov. 11.—One of the most important meetings ever held in the Mississippi Valley was called for November 16-17 at New Orleans. Its object is to devise ways and means to prevent the Mississippi River from cutting a new mouth, through the delta, to the Gulf of Mexico, as it is now trying to do by following one of its old mouths, the Atchafalaya River, down to Atchafalaya Bay, past Morgan City, about 100 miles west of New Orleans. Gov. John M. Parker issued the call for this meeting, on representations of some 500 property owners, whose lands, totalling about 2,000 square miles, in eight parishes, are flooded each year by the constantly increasing volume of flood waters which pour out of the Mississippi through the Old River and the mouth of the Red River into the Atchafalaya, and thence southward to the Gulf of Mexico.

At present, about one-sixth of the flood-waters of the Mississippi river is going out to the gulf through this new mouth, which has been widened from 15 feet in 1840 to nearly 1,700 feet to-day. In addition to flooding these 2,000 square miles of cotton lands, the danger is great that the Mississippi will abandon its present channel, leaving New Orleans on a still-water lake, and send virtually all its waters through the Atchafalaya.

FOUR SOLUTIONS PROPOSED.

At least four solutions will be presented for the consideration of the conference:—

The first of these, and the oldest, will be the straight cutting off of the Red and Old rivers from the Mississippi, the raising of the levees southward to a height sufficient to handle all the water of the Mississippi through its present channel to the Gulf of Mexico. This will be presented by Senator Ransdell and the Louisiana Flood Control Association.

The second will call for the construction of a concrete sill across the mouths of the Red and Old rivers, allowing all flood waters, above 16 feet, to go out through this channel, and forcing the landowners in this now flooded section, to build levees along both sides of the Old River and of the Atchafalaya, as far south as may be necessary to handle this water. The objection to be presented to this is that the landowners cannot afford to build this 200 miles or more of levees, and that, with the flood waters constantly increasing, there can be no assurance of the permanent ability of this method to handle the flood waters of the Mississippi. This plan will be presented by the Association of Commerce and the city of New Orleans, which are unalterably opposed to the raising of the levees.

FAVoured PROJECT.

The third project, proposed by Capt. H. H. Harvey, owner of Harvey's canal, which connects New

Orleans with Bayou Barataria and the Gulf of Mexico, and concurred in by many federal and state engineers, calls for the construction of a dam and locks across the Mississippi River below the mouth of the Red and Old rivers; the permanent closing of the mouths of these two streams, and the construction of a deep canal, from the present mouths of these streams, south and west to the Atchafalaya River, said canal to be controlled by locks and gates, so that as much or as little as is necessary of the Mississippi's flood-waters can be released through this canal to seek its new way to the sea. The canal in question, is to be made navigable, about 300 feet wide and 35 feet deep at a minimum, capable of caring for estimated flood increases for the next 25 years, and with land enough in the right of way to provide for its enlargement, if necessary at that future date. This plan, which seems to be the most definite and the most widely supported of all four, contemplates the aid of the federal government. It would maintain a constant, man-controlled water-level at New Orleans, and would eliminate the present heavy cost—a tax of approximately 10 miles of upkeep of the 532 miles of levees already described.

MONOGRAM CITY PLAN.

The fourth plan, which is to be presented by Morgan City, and dwellers along the Atchafalaya River, is to deepen the present channel of Old River, turn Red westward into it, and allow all the water which the Mississippi cares to eliminate to flow through this new mouth to the sea. This would leave, as Capt. L. V. Cooley said to the correspondent of the "Christian Science Monitor," New Orleans on a still-water, inland canal or lake, running to the sea, but having very poor, if any, water connexion with the Mississippi Valley above Angora, 216 miles north of New Orleans. The reason behind this project, of course, is the creation of another deep-water, gulf port at Morgan City, 100 miles west of New Orleans.—"C. S. M."

SOME years ago a Chinese whose daughter had been kidnapped wrote to the Inspector in Charge of one of the Municipal Police Stations asking that an endeavour should be made to trace her. He had apparently failed to get any satisfaction from the Chinese Officials as may be gathered from the following extract from his letter:—"I have repeatedly petitioned to the Chinese Magistrate but very sorry to say, in fact very shameful to say that, owing to the 'itching palm' habit, which is the canker of government in China, my petition was rejected with a piece of paper, which gave a lot of excuses."

COMMERCE & FINANCE

Money and Exchange

Shanghai, Dec. 17.

Sovereigns, Bank's buying rate	
@ 4/1 = Tls. 4.90 @ 72 = \$6.50	
Gold Dollars, Bank's buying rate	
@ 7 1/2 = Tls. 1.39 @ 72 = \$1.94	
Mex. Dollars, market rate	71.775
Native Interest	12
Copper Cash	197,500

Bar Silver	41 7/8
Bank rate of discount	7%
Proportion reserve to liabilities	9%
Paris on London	Frs. 58
New York on London	G. \$3.50 1/2

OPENING AND CLOSING BANK RATES.

ON LONDON—	1/2 Tael
Tel. transfer	4/1
Demand	4/1 1/2
Credit 4 m/s.	4/5
Credit 6 m/s.	4/5 1/2
Docy. Bills, 4 m/s.	4/5 1/2
ON NEW YORK—	
Tel. transfer	7 1/2
Docy. Bills, 4 m/s.	79 1/4
ON PARIS—	
Demand	1208
Docy. Bills, 4 m/s.	1305
ON INDIA—	
Demand	288 1/2
ON HONGKONG—	
Demand	74 1/2
ON YOKOHAMA—	
Demand	70
ON BATAVIA—	
Demand	229
ON SINGAPORE—	
Demand	56 1/2

Sino-Italian Bank Quotations.

Selling Rates, December 17.—	
It. Lire 19.50	Tls. 1
Swiss Fr. 4.15	" 1
Marks 47.75	" 1
It. Lire 13.25	Y. 1
Quotations for December 16.—	
It. Lire 98.30	£1 stg.
It. Lire 27.70	\$1 U.S.
It. Lire 169.65	Fr. 100 (France).

CUSTOMS EXCHANGE RATES FOR DECEMBER.

Wk. Tl. 4.08 @ 4/4 1/2	£1
" 1 @ 12.73	Francs 14.18
" 1.17 @ 76 1/2	Gold \$1.00
" 1 @ 65 1/2	Yen 1.70
" 1 @ 280 1/2	Rupees 3.12
" 1 @ 1.50	Mex. \$1.50
Roubles no quotation.	

Week's Exchange Notes

Dec. 18.

At the close of business on Thursday the stock of silver in Shanghai comprised Tls. 334,300,000 and \$265,500,000, including Tls. 340,000 in silver bars. These figures include Tls. 6,510,000 and \$12,720,000 in Chinese banks, in which there were no bars.

Bar Silver. Arrivals were:—

Bars 1,040 from America	
" 413 " London	
1,453	

Shipments were:—

639 bars to Canton	
224 " " Hongkong	
863 bars	

Sycee. Shipments were:—	
Tls. 620,000 to Nanking	
Dollars.—Arrivals were:—	
\$430,000 from Nanking	
100,000 " River Ports	
100,000 " Hangchow	
60,000 " Chékiang	
50,000 " Wusih	
\$740,000	

Shipments were:—

\$200,000 to Harbin	
190,000 " Chefoo	
100,000 " Amoy	

\$490,000

SILVER.

The London price shows a recovery during the week of 2 1/2d. spot and 1 1/2d. forward. The latest advice giving market conditions reports that the most recent fall to 41 1/2d spot and forward, Thursday's quotation, was due to speculators selling. The New York price of silver is given as 68 cents business done, for delivery at San Francisco, with the London/New York cross rate 350 1/2.

EXCHANGE.

Speculators have been very busy during the week with offers to sell generally at 1 1/2d. to 2d. over quotations, and, as has been the case for some time past, the large majority of operations have been re-sales of purchases from the gold shops at small differences below purchase rates. There has been a slight movement in exports but the quantity of bills offering has been only trifling, whilst the demand for remittances and retirements has been also slight. The market closed on Friday afternoon steady, with selling at 4/2 1/2d. or 1 1/2d. over the quoted rate.

Gold

In their letter dated London, October 21, Messrs. Samuel Montagu & Co. report:—

The Bank of England gold reserve against its note issue is £121,678,085, an increase of £6,680 as compared with last week.

It is reported from New York that \$16,050,000 in gold has been received in that city from London, and that \$10,000,000 in currency (gold or silver not stated) has been shipped to Cuba.

A fair amount of gold came into the market this week and was taken for New York, with the exception of a small amount for India.

Silver

In their report of the same date on the silver market, they state:—

The market has not been robust, and prices pursued their downward course until 50 1/2d. was reached on the 19th instant. Supplies for cash and forward delivery were equally obtainable on that day and on the day before, so that the premium for immediate delivery disappeared, but it was re-established yesterday.

Some reaction, temporary at any rate, was likely to set in after so pronounced a descent. The cash

price had fallen almost continuously from 59 1/2d. at which it was fixed September 25. A powerful lever was the partial collapse of the Indian exchange, which incidentally added exports from that country to the already rather superabundant supplies. Hence, as soon as a degree of steadiness in that exchange became apparent, the silver market picked up heart, bears covered and some legitimate demand—held in abeyance whilst the outlook seemed so heavy—showed itself. As a result, prices for the respective deliveries rose 2 1/2d. and 2.5/8d. from the lowest reached during the week.

The real elements, however, that rendered the silver position unsteady have not been removed. The partial failure of the monsoon throws its shadow over the Indian exchange, and no real outlet for silver is in sight except China, which is still lamenting the lack of export business. Had the Consortium decided to assist China with loans, the outlook might have been improved.

The fall in silver has taken place, notwithstanding the marked weakness of the U.S. exchange, owing to the fear of the coal strike and its actual occurrence.

The figures relating to the constitution of the Indian paper currency reserve on October 15 last record a re-valuation of the gold and sterling holdings in the reserve at the new statutory ratio of Rs. 10 = £1. This re-valuation was made in pursuance of the provisions of the Indian Paper Currency Amendment Act, 1920, which came into effect on the 1st instant. The deficiency revealed by re-valuation has been covered by an increase in the securities (Government of India) held in the reserve.

As a consequence, the proportion of the metallic reserve—to the total note circulation—which stood as high as 50.7 per cent. on September 30, is now calculated at only 51.7 per cent. We have yet to learn what has become of the very large profits made by the Government gold sales which have now come to an end, and (so we are informed) are not likely to be renewed.

We understand that the Government has no intention of recommending the sale of reverse councils in order to stem the recent remarkable fall in the sterling value of the rupee.

BRITISH SILVER DEBT TO AMERICA

Arrangements for Payment

Washington, Dec. 10.

Mr. David F. Houston, Secretary of the Treasury, has announced the details of a plan, whereby Great Britain agrees to pay a debt of \$122,000,000, due to the United States for silver purchased during the war, by 1924. The debt represents bullion obtained from melting down silver dollars, in

order to relieve the shortage in India.

The money will be paid in equal annual instalments from 1921 to 1924, in the proportions of 60 per cent. on April 4, and 40 per cent. on May 15, each year, with accrued interest at 5 per cent. from April 15, 1919. Until the payment is completed, Great Britain will permit the United States Treasury to make tenders for the purchase of rupee credits offered in India on the same terms as British nationals.—Reuter.

Silver Mines Stop Production

New York, Dec. 11.

Many silver mines in Canada the United States and Mexico have suspended production, owing to the fall in the price of the metal.—Reuter.

THE BANK OF CHINA

Annual Report for 1919

The report of the Bank of China for the year ended December 31, 1919, shows that the total net profit of the Bank during the year 1919 amounted to \$3,456,333.21. Of this amount, \$933,251.88 was the net profit for the first half-year, and \$2,523,081.33 for the second half-year. In comparison with the figures for the previous year there shows a decrease of \$576,051.96 in the first half-year, and the increase of \$1,242,373.99 in the second half-year. At the closing of the accounts for the year 1919, the grand total of liabilities was \$313,974,839.22 and that of assets was \$317,431,172.43. In comparison with the figures for the preceding year, there is shown an increase of \$45,541,482.96 in liabilities and \$45,207,804.99 in assets.

The general balance sheet as at December 31, 1919, is as follows:—

LIABILITIES.

Capital Subscribed	\$60,000,000.00
Reserve Fund	4,116,772.21
Reserve against bad debts and loss in exchange	3,679,251.00
Fixed deposits	35,663,714.28
Current deposits	145,796,145.27
Drafts issued	3,038,868.07
Notes in circulation	61,680,088.39
Net profit for the year	3,456,333.21
	\$317,431,172.43

ASSETS.

Capital uncalled	\$47,720,200.00
Fixed loans	41,142,672.27
Short term loans	142,909,420.65
Government securities and sundry investments	10,632,517.01
Bank premises, furniture, etc.	2,886,753.33
Preliminary expenses	119,570.92
Cost of bank note printing	1,359,073.42
Reserve against notes in circulation*	61,680,088.39
Cash in hand	8,980,876.44
	\$317,431,172.43

*Actual cash \$31,399,125.29
Against security guaranteed by Ministry of Finance 30,280,963.10

The profit and loss account is as follows:—

Dr.	
general expenses	\$3,464,715.85
depreciation of bank premises, furniture, etc.	316,532.47
preliminary expenses written off	48,698.52
cost of note-printing written off	139,252.35
net profit for the year ending Dec. 31, 1919	3,456,333.21
	\$7,425,532.40

Cr.	
By balance from last account	\$291,126.03
profit on exchange	1,411,683.25
interest	5,497,508.71
sundry profits	225,214.41
	\$7,425,532.40

P. & O. Bank's Offer to Buy Allahabad Bank

Allahabad, Dec. 11.

The Peninsular & Oriental Banking Corporation has offered to purchase the ordinary shares of the Allahabad Bank at a price of 436 rupees for fully paid up ordinary shares, and 218 rupees on the new issue of 9,000 shares, on which calls must be paid by December 15. The offer is conditional on holders of not fewer than 75 per cent. of the ordinary shares accepting. Shareholders are also given the option of receiving P. & O. Corporation shares at £10.2.6 each.—Reuter.

SHANGHAI MARKET REPORT

Dec. 18.

PIECE GOODS.

No improvement was looked for in the piece goods market this week, and certainly none has occurred. Nor is any in sight, in fact the weeks between now and China New Year will be among the most critical which have to be faced. Rumours of difficulties are more in evidence than ever, and while many are based upon a good foundation there is the inevitable tendency to give currency to the wildest exaggerations. In the case of one failure occurring towards the end of last week it seems tolerably certain that the extent of liabilities over assets is in the region of a million and a half taels. This will certainly not be the end of the tale of woe, for in the absence of financial facilities from the native banks it will be impossible for many dealers of small capital to tide over China New Year. In the circumstances these next few weeks are bound to be disastrous to them, and the prognostications made long since of danger to trade generally through the influx of inexperienced traders will be fully borne out.

For those who can weather the immediate storm the prospects are more hopeful. Provided that they can carry on over China New Year it is anticipated that the banks will once more provide the accustomed facilities and afford an opportunity to move cargo into

the interior. But even then no revival in trade can be looked for unless political conditions show signs of settlement. Within the past month or two it has been seen how much brigandage and unrest among the country's soldiery have damaged trade prospects, ruining, for instance, what appeared to be a useful revival from Szechuan, and so long as these conditions continue legitimate business will have a very poor chance.

The clearances of cargo from godowns are proceeding slowly, and in the case of one important firm have shown a drop of practically 50 per cent. this week as compared with last. At the auctions very small quantities were offered, and so long as present conditions prevail no increase is likely to be seen. During the week there has been a very small demand from Shantung, but apart from this the purchases were largely speculative, contingent upon the small quantities offered.

COTTON.

While the local cotton market has been quiet during the week, prices have been rather firmer. As a matter of fact the cotton situation is of considerable interest, as there is a distinct tendency on the part of many to believe that prices in America and elsewhere have touched bottom and that a general stiffening up will take place. Against this point of view we have the others who anticipate cotton in New York going as low as 12 cents. Obviously the future depends on how the financial situation develops, and those who hold a belief in still lower world-prices for cotton point to the absence of improvement in American trade.

The closing prices for local cotton are as follows:

Tungchow	Tls. 23.90
Shanghai	Tls. 22.50
Nanzu	Tls. 22
Taichong	Tls. 23
Shensi I	Tls. 25/26
" II	Tls. 22/23

In local yarn some 2,000 bales of 10's, 12's, 14's and 16's have been sold during the week at gradually improving prices. The feeling in the market is quite sound, for the interior is bare of supplies, and given more settled conditions there would be a big movement of cargo. Clearances of yarn are fair, but local cloth still remains quiet.

SILK.

The stagnation of the last few weeks has been somewhat relieved by signs of a revival in America, although so far only upon a small scale. A few bales have been done, but so far it has been more in the nature of picking up odd lots than anything else. What appears to have happened is that the drop in exchange has allowed China to compete with Japan. There was also a small demand from Bombay but this appears to have died down again. Lyons and London are depressed and seem to be taking the most cautious view of the future.

SEED.

Sesamum seed is a dead market, and price ideas at Home are much

below the China parity. It is thought, however, that dealers might be willing to accept somewhat lower rates than at present. No business has been reported for some considerable time.

HIDES.

There is a small demand for hides at prices below replacing costs in China. Consequently only a very limited business has been done in spot goods.

TEA.

Black Tea.—There is no market. Since our last report dated October 15 the following settlements have been made:—

Keemuns	1,500 h/c.
Ningchows	1,300 „
Hankow Tea	3,000 „

These spasmodic purchases, however, have only served to heighten the general gloom and not a ripple of activity disturbs the surface of the black tea market. Its depths are unfathomable and even at the present exchange the bottom is apparently as far away as ever.

Green Tea.—Since our last report settlements of Country tea amount to 12,700 h/c, chiefly better grades. Stocks are 55,000 h/c, mostly Sowmees and common kinds for which not even the drop in exchange has succeeded in creating a demand.

The Pingsuey market is dead, and the following figures show the position:—

Arrivals to date	109,000 h/c.
Settlements	30,200 „
Stocks	78,800 „

Cotton Production Halved

Memphis, Ten. Dec. 10.

A conference of bankers, merchants and farmers in the Southern States, held here, has decided to reduce cotton production next year by 50 per cent., by curtailing the acreage cultivated. Machinery has been set in motion to curtail the granting of credit to growers who are unwilling to agree to this reduction.—Reuter.

Textiles Follow Suit.

Boston, Dec. 10.

...A conference of textile manufacturers in the New England States and New York has forecasted a reduction of 22½ per cent. This will affect 300,000 workers.—Reuter.

Wages Cut in American Mills

Lawrence, Mass., Dec. 13.

The first announcement of an actual reduction in the wages of textile operatives employed by the larger mill corporations has been made at the Pacific Mills and Arlington Mills. Sixteen thousand employees have been notified of a readjustment which is to be effective on December 20. It is understood that a cut of approximately 22½ per cent. is to be made.—Reuter.

U. S. Ships and Railways

New York Dec. 10.

The Shipping Board has suspended indefinitely the clause in the Merchant Marine Act which allows preferential railway rates in respect of goods to be exported in American ships.—Reuter.

WHY FRANCE REVIVES

World's Second Iron Producing Country

Paris, Dec. 12.

M. Klotz, formerly Minister of Finance, contributes to the "*Revue Economique Internationale*" an article, in which he gives substantial reasons for expecting a striking economic revival shortly.

M. Klotz points out that, as the direct consequence of the return to her of Alsace-Lorraine, France will soon occupy the second place among the iron and steel producing countries of the world, coming immediately after the United States, and far ahead of other European countries.

For the same reason, the capacity of the French textile industry has increased by 40 per cent., and France is already nearly self-supporting as regards chemicals, notably fertilizers.

Moreover, the time-limit for assessing the exact figure of the German indemnity will expire in May next, and France will then hold a regular mortgage on Germany's wealth, greatly exceeding France's external debt, which, moreover, will decrease automatically with every advance of the franc in ex-

change, consequent upon the development of French export trade.—Reuter.

CHINESE ENGINEERING & MINING CO.

Directors' Annual Report and Accounts

The annual general meeting of the shareholders of the Chinese Engineering & Mining Company, Ltd., was to be held in London on December 16, 1920, when the Directors' Report and Statement of Accounts for the year ended June 30, 1920, were to be submitted.

EXTRACT FROM DIRECTORS' REPORT.

The net result of the year's transactions shows a balance to the credit of Profit and Loss Account of £1,306,361, made up as follows:—

Proportion of Kailan Mining Administration's Profits, plus China Interest	£1,169,825
Interest in Europe	41,895
Agency Fees	4,000
Sundry Receipts	643
Balance brought forward (after deducting £8,746 Directors' percentage)	285,100
Total	£1,501,463

Deduct.	
Expenses in Europe	£10,920
Directors' Fees	4,200
Exchange	2,265
Income Tax	90,952
Loss on Sales of Government Stocks	86,315
Donation	250
	194,902

Leaving a Net Balance of £1,306,501

which the Directors recommend should be appropriated as follows:—

Interim Dividend 10 per cent. (free of Income Tax) paid 15th May, 1920, absorbed	£100,000
Final Dividend 20 per cent. (free of Income Tax) making 30 per cent. for the year	200,000
Reserve for Excess Profits duty	524,703
Corporation Profits Tax, 6 months, estimated at	21,000
Directors' Percentage	18,963
Balance carried forward	441,895
	£1,306,561

The Directors propose capitalizing £400,000 of the accumulated

The China Mutual Life Insurance Co. Ltd.

A BRITISH COMPANY

Registered under the Hongkong Ordinances and with the Board of Trade (England)

With Assets totalling Taels 10,165,190.33.

AGENCIES THROUGHOUT ASIA

Policies free from all unnecessary conditions and restrictions. Reduction of Premiums for Home Residences

HEAD OFFICE: SHANGHAI

H. M. POLICE COURT

Shanghai, Dec. 10.

Before Mr. G. W. King,
Magistrate.

Rex v. T. Mellows.

T. Mellows, aged 19, clerk, was brought up in custody, charged with obtaining sums of \$400, \$250 and \$100 by false pretences from Y. Ching Chong. Mr. R. C. Faithfull represented the Police.

Outlining the case, Mr. Faithfull said that, on August 31, the prosecutor received a telephone message from somebody—he believed the prisoner admitted he was the person speaking—stating that a Mr. Mellows would be glad if the firm could loan him \$400. The next day, the prisoner took to Y. Ching Chong a letter on which \$400 was advanced.

The following day, he brought another letter, on which a further \$200 was handed over. A few days afterwards he came again with what purported to be a compradore order for \$300. On that, however, the firm only gave the prisoner \$100.

When eventually Y. Ching Chong asked Mr. Mellows for a refund of the sums lent, he was surprised to hear that that gentleman knew nothing whatever about the matter. Prisoner then absconded and was only arrested on Thursday.

Detective-Inspector J. Cruickshank gave evidence of arrest and said that the prisoner, when charged, replied: "That is quite right: I have nothing more to say."

Mr. Faithfull: It is a case in which I shall have to ask for the prisoner to be committed, because later I shall make another charge.

The Magistrate: No, no; you must not say that. You must make all your charges now.

Mr. Faithfull: Very well, I will say now that I shall charge him also with forging his father's name to a compradore order.

The Magistrate: Then I will remand him in custody until tomorrow and it is only right that he should be informed at the earliest possible moment what the charges are against him.

On the heaving being resumed last Saturday,

Mr. Faithfull said that the prosecution would drop the charge as regards obtaining \$100 by false pretences and substitute one of forgery of a compradore order for \$100. The other two charges of false pretences would stand.

Lee Pyn-zun, manager of Y. Ching Chong, said that he knew the prisoner's father very well. A telephone message came to witness on August 31 from someone who stated that he was Mr. Mellows and that he wanted a loan of \$400, adding that he would send his son round for the money. The prisoner came to the shop with a letter and witness, believing it to

be from Inspector Mellows, paid him \$400.

The chief clerk sanctioned payment of \$250 the next day, when another letter was brought. Witness was sick then and also when the compradore order was brought.

On September 16, witness rang up Inspector Mellows and invited him round to the shop. There, witness asked him to repay \$750, but he replied that he had no knowledge of the matter. He said the letters were not his, he would not pay and he would not recognize the transaction.

Mr. Faithfull said that the manager had led him to believe that he personally conducted all the negotiations and that was the reason the clerk was not in attendance. The clerk would now have to be called to prove the second letter and the compradore order.

The Magistrate: What made you think this was Inspector Mellows's letter? Have you seen him write?

Witness: No, sir. I have only seen his endorsement on a cheque once. I thought it was Inspector Mellows's writing because it was signed: "T. Mellows, Inspector, River Police, Chinese Customs." The signature I saw on the cheque was the same as on the letter.

Inspector T. Mellows said that he did not send a telephone message to Y. Ching Chong on August 31, nor send his son there. The letters produced were not witness's and he had no knowledge of the money lent to his son by the firm. He did not authorize his son to borrow money from the prosecutor at any time. When his son left for Manchuria on September 12, witness gave him \$200 and his passage and, so far as he knew, that was all the money the boy had.

Witness continued: "The manager has just stated in evidence that he telephoned to me, that I refused to pay the money and that I went to the shop and he showed me the letters. To the best of my knowledge, I never saw that man at all. It was a taller man that I saw and he told me that the man who has given evidence was sick."

"To the best of my knowledge, also, I have never given Y. Ching Chong a cheque in my life. I only dealt with them for about 12 months, 16 or 17 years ago and they always collected cash at the house. The head office might know my signature, for I have signed various papers there, but never cheques."

The Magistrate:—Mr. Faithfull, do you rest your case of forgery on the fact that a man delivers a letter?

Mr. Faithfull:—He delivers a letter with a signature which purports to be his father's and it is not.

The Magistrate:—If I pick up a letter in the street, can you charge me with forging it?

Mr. Faithfull:—I admit there is no evidence that the prisoner has written it, but we could charge him with uttering it?

The Magistrate:—Yes, but you have not.

The case was further remanded until Tuesday.

On Tuesday evidence was given by Yih I-kong, general manager for Y. Ching Chong, who stated that he authorized payment of \$400 to the accused on the strength of a letter signed "T. Mellows" which he brought to the shop. On the following day he brought another letter asking for \$250, and this was also paid. On another occasion, accused presented a compradore order for \$300, made out to "T. Mellows" and signed "John Smith." Witness paid \$100 on this letter, that amount being all he had available at the moment. Accused stated that this was an order on the American Trading Company, but payment was refused when witness presented the order, the company stating that they did not know the name.

In cross-examination, witness said that accused stated the order was for himself. Witness promised to pay him the remaining \$200 after having verified the order.

His Worship observed that no one had a monopoly of the name "T. Mellows" in Shanghai.

ONLY ONE T. MELLOWS.

Mr. Faithfull—I hold that there is only one T. Mellows—the prisoner's father, and that the accused should have signed T. Mellows, Junior.

Accused stated that, when cashing the order, he signed "Thomas Edward Mellows," to make a distinction.

In answer to his Worship, who asked why witness debited the father with \$100 when the order was for the accused, witness said that he had known Inspector Mellows for many years and trusted the son as he would the father.

His Worship:—On the face of it, credit was given to the accused and not to Inspector Mellows.

Mr. Faithfull:—He debited the father and applied to him for payment.

His Worship:—You would have to go much farther than that. The order was never made out to the father.

Mr. Faithfull:—I can prove by Inspector Mellows that the order and the letters were made out by the accused.

His Worship:—That is another line.

Mr. Faithfull added that he was prepared to let the original charge of false pretences stand.

His Worship:—By your own witness's showing, it is not made out to his father.

Inspector Mellows, re-called, and questioned with reference to the second letter, said that it was not his letter. He would not say that it was in his son's writing, though it was somewhat similar.

WHAT IS YOUR CASE?

Mr. Faithfull announced that this was the case for the prosecution, whereupon his Worship asked: Exactly what case have you

made out? What charge do you propose I should frame?

Counsel replied, the first two charges of false pretences, of obtaining money upon letters purporting to have been written by Inspector Mellows. The compradore order was a fictitious order, but the evidence in regard to it seemed to be mixed up. There were clearly two cases of false pretences.

Inspector Mellows, again recalled, said that the endorsement on the compradore order was certainly his son's signature, but as to the writing on the front, he would not say whether it was his son's or not.

Mr. Faithfull suggested that, apart from the compradore order, his Worship could frame two charges of forgery. Accused had certainly uttered a forgery. His father did not seem particularly anxious to have him badly punished, and his Worship had the power, if it was a misdemeanour, to deal with the matter summarily on two charges of false pretences.

His Worship:—What have you proved?

Mr. Faithfull:—I submit I have proved two specific charges of obtaining money by false pretences on letters purporting to be signed by accused's father but which were not signed by him.

Counsel did not press the forgery charge, as to which there seemed to be some sort of blunder in the evidence. He added that he would prefer to make the third charge one of false pretences also.

Defendant elected to be dealt with summarily, and his Worship adjourned the case until next morning in order that he might consider what should be done.

Prisoner Sentenced to Three Months

On Mellows being brought up for sentence on Wednesday, Mr. King said: I have after due consideration, decided to try you summarily and I have framed three charges of false pretences against you. I must say that they might have been framed under the Forgery Act, but the prosecution has not pressed that.

The prisoner pleaded guilty and had nothing to say.

Mr. King: Have you no excuse to offer for obtaining this money?—No, sir; no excuse at all.

His Worship:—You understand your position? You have pleaded guilty and, if you can offer no excuse, I must pass sentence on you, which, in the ordinary way, will be imprisonment. If you want the benefit of the First Offenders' Act, you must show reason why I should apply it. You are a young man; is there no reason you can give?

Prisoner: At the time I did these three acts, I did not think it was so serious. I did it without thinking of the consequences. That is all the excuse I can give.

His Worship:—That is no excuse. As far as I understand, you were living in your parents' house and there seems no reason for taking

the money. Was there any?—I can't give you the reason without giving somebody else away and I am not going to do that.

You took this money to help somebody else?—Yes, sir.

Mr. King: Then I must know who that person is.

Mr. R. C. Faithfull (for the Police): I think it rather aggravates the offence if he does not choose to give the name of the person he wished to help. I was going to suggest that he be committed for trial on three charges under Section 7 of the Forgery Act.

His Worship:—I really cannot go into this. I have said that I will try him summarily.

Detective Inspector Cruickshank: From personal observation, I can say that the prisoner has really been the tool of that class of people of whom we have so many here just now and especially those who frequent the dancing halls outside the Settlement. Really, in the local term, he is the "sucker" for these people. They have been living off him and getting him to do the dirty work. He knew exactly what he was doing, but he shared very little of the proceeds. He was infatuated with these elaborately dressed women. I know that he spent \$750 in four days and he has nothing to show for it, except the pleasure of these ladies, if it is a pleasure.

His Worship:—Is there any truth in that?

Prisoner: Yes, sir.

His Worship:—It does not seem to be a legitimate excuse for you to obtain this money. After all, you have had pleasure, such as it is, and you have caused a pretty heavy loss to these Chinese. You must give me a better excuse. I cannot accept that.

Prisoner: I have no other excuse.

His Worship:—It seems to me, your plan of action has been rendered more simple by the credulity of the Chinese and, if they have lost, they have, to a great extent, themselves to blame. There is no suggestion that Inspector Mellows was in the habit of borrowing money, yet you go along with letters purporting to be in his name and get \$650. If they chose to part with their money without making any inquiries, they must bear the loss. Similarly, they seem to have taken it for granted that the compradore order was genuine and they parted with another \$100. I have considered if it was possible to give you the benefit of the First Offenders' Act, but, with great reluctance, I cannot see why I should. You were living with your parents and there is no suggestion that you were hard up, or that there was any reason why you should take this money. If your plea were accepted, it would be hard to punish anybody in this court. I don't like to do it, as you are a young man, but I feel that, if I do not sentence you, I should encourage others to do the same. The *raison d'être* of punishment is to prevent others doing the same. You will serve three months' imprisonment.

THE OBSTRUCTION OF JINKEE ROAD

Police Prosecution

LOCAL GARAGE KEEPER BEFORE THE COURT

At H. M. Police Court on Monday, before Mr. G. W. King, Magistrate, C. J. White was summoned for allowing certain motor cars to cause an obstruction in Jinkee Road. There were six summonses, dated November 1 and the first five days in December, and 69 cars involved.

Mr. R. C. Faithfull prosecuted.

Defendant admitted the offence and said that the cars had been there for quite a long time. Some time ago he spoke to Inspector Vaughan who said that as long as the Hongkong Road garage was not ready the cars could be left on one side of the road. Although their new garage had been used, it was not quite ready for the hire service, but this would be transferred this week, and he did not think there would be occasion for any more complaints.

Mr. Faithfull said the Commissioner of Police had only taken proceedings with a great deal of reluctance, and he had no desire to hamper business of a legitimate order. Defendants had been warned on several occasions that as many as 20 cars had been seen obstructing the street in the night time, and it was more the obstruction at night than in the day to which objection was taken.

Inspector Vaughan spoke as to visiting the garage on several occasions with reference to these obstructions, and calling upon Mr. White to have the road cleared while he was present. Both Mr. White and other members of the firm had pleaded for leniency on account of the fact that they had too many cars for their garage, and pointing out that the new garage would be ready in a few days. The new premises had been open for at least two months and there was room to stock at least 200 cars there. The condition to-day in Jinkee Road was as bad as ever. The Inspector added that part of the obstruction complained of was that cars run into the shed were allowed to extend partly on to the pavement.

SOME POINTED QUESTIONS.

His Worship:—You have noticed that outside the Kelly & Walsh building cars are practically on the tram line?

Inspector Vaughan:—That is tolerated for the time being, until the road is widened. We have to make use of every available space.

His Worship:—You allow an obstruction opposite the Kelly & Walsh building, but not in Jinkee Road.

Inspector Vaughan:—The defendants obstructed the road with 69 cars. The point might be raised

with regard to every street in the Settlement. The streets are too narrow for the amount of traffic, and we have nowhere to put cars as regards the main streets.

Mr. White repeated that the new garage was not ready for the hire service for which the cars in Jinkee Road were used. They were being shifted that day and possibly not more than 10 cars would be left in Jinkee Road.

Mr. Faithfull mentioned that there was a summons against defendant for a similar case in Weihaiwei Road last year.

His Worship:—Yes. He was fined \$1.

Inspector Vaughan put in a letter from the Commissioner of Police to defendants, in which it was stated that proceedings would be taken if the matter was not remedied. The letter was written in October.

NEIGHBOURS' COMPLAINTS.

His Worship:—Have you had any complaints from people in the neighbourhood?

Inspector Vaughan:—Yes, and as a result, I have been instructed to bring these proceedings.

Defendant pointed out that the letter complained of obstruction at night time, but the summons did not.

Inspector Vaughan:—Three of the summonses refer to 2 a.m. and three to 10-30 a.m., these being taken to show the condition that exists.

Defendant:—There is a stand for motor cars in Jinkee Road on the south side of the road. I should like to know what that stand is there for if it is not a stand for cars.

Inspector Vaughan:—It distinctly says "public."

Defendant:—We were told we could put cars there.

Inspector Vaughan:—You were told you could line them up on the blank wall, but not to obstruct the pavement and both sides of the road.

A FINE IMPOSED.

Defendant further stated that a good number of the cars did not belong to the company at all. They belonged to tenants who left their cars standing outside their doors. Of late, the company's cars had been kept on the south side of the road only.

Inspector Vaughan:—You do not dispute that all the cars mentioned in the summons are yours?

Defendant:—No.

His Worship:—I think you have been given every opportunity of putting an end to this obstruction. I shall have to fine you \$5 for each offence, \$30 in all.

His many friends will be interested to know that Mr. J. O. Sheppard, the acting Manager of the Pacific Mail Steamship Co. at Hongkong, who recently went on furlough, will not come back to the Far East. He will most probably be stationed at San Francisco, which is a promotion for him.

U. S. COURT FOR CHINA

Shanghai, Dec. 11.

Before HIS HONOUR JUDGE C. S. LOBINGIER

Dowler, Forbes & Co., Ltd. v. The Liberty Steel Products Corp. of N. Y.

This was a claim for G.\$95,700 alleged to be damages sustained by plaintiffs for defendant's repudiation of certain contracts calling for 21,000 kegs of nails.

Mr. R. T. Bryan, Jr., represented plaintiffs, and Mr. S. Fessenden the defence.

In his decision, Judge Lobingier said:—

Plaintiff alleges that it entered into a series of contracts with defendant for the purchase of wire nails. The answer denies the averment and the burden rests upon plaintiff to show that such contracts were actually made.

The negotiations were initiated by orders placed with P. J. Erricson, a commission salesman for defendant, (whose headquarters are in New York) and other principals, who was temporarily staying at the Astor House but had no office in Shanghai. Plaintiff's representative knew that Erricson acted for others, that O. D. Walker, whose office was at Tientsin, held the power of attorney for defendant, and that Erricson was Walker's representative. Plaintiff was thus chargeable with knowledge that Walker's general power could not be delegated and that Erricson's authority was necessarily not general. It is conceded, however, that plaintiff's agent made no inquiry as to the nature of that authority, which did not, according to the evidence, extend to the confirmation of orders.

It is true that Erricson signed certain letters, "Liberty Steel Products Co., by" himself; but, in the face of knowledge that another held the power of attorney, we doubt if such signature alone, justified the assumption that Erricson was authorized to close important contracts of sale.

"The acts of an agent assuming to have authority to sell his principal's personal property will not bind the principal unless he has actually given the agent such authority, or has held him out to the public as clothed with it."

However, the question of such authority is largely academic here for the evidence fails to show that Erricson did assume it.

Plaintiff's first order, dated October 28, 1919, was transmitted by Erricson to Walker who acknowledged it the next day stating,

"Cable has already been sent covering this order and we will advise you immediately upon receipt of confirmation."

THE ARGUMENT.

It is conceded by plaintiff's counsel that this did not constitute an acceptance and that up to that time no contract was effected. Moreover from the information that plaintiff would be advised

"upon receipt of confirmation" it could hardly have understood otherwise than that confirmation by the home office was essential. This tends to corroborate Erricson's testimony that all of the orders were taken subject to such confirmation and, while Walker was absent from China at the time of the trial, it is admitted that, if present, he would testify to the same effect. Indeed plaintiff's own letters corroborate this for on November 20 it wrote Erricson:

"We have also cabled our New York House to confirm in addition with your New York House the various orders placed, i.e. 16,500 kegs a G\$ 5.40 base, so that please see your friends in America are promptly advised so that there will be no discrepancies over the acceptances."

Again on January 19, 1920, plaintiff's agent wrote Walker:

"We hope in due course to hear from you by telegram that your New York has confirmed our orders."

Why should plaintiff "hope" for confirmation if that were unnecessary and the purchase were already completed in China?

As regards this point it is admitted by plaintiff's agent that all of the later orders were taken on the same basis as the first. Most of them were in the form of telegrams to Erricson (who had meanwhile gone to Tientsin) to "cover" a certain quantity of nails and the reply usually was "Have covered." Just why the word "cover" was used is not clearly explained but there is no attempt to show that it was intended to mean "confirm."

At any rate the hope was not realized for defendant's home office declined to accept any of the orders. Just when this was first announced is not clear but it was evidently known to plaintiff when it wrote its letter of January 19 and to Walker when he sent his cable to the home office on January 18. This would indicate an unusually prompt reply to Erricson's letter of December 8 transmitting the full and final orders, and distinguish this case from that cited by plaintiff's counsel. Subsequently Walker wrote plaintiff as follows:

"I received a cable from Mr. Graham with reference to the orders submitted to New York, for confirmation, and he advised me that the loss which would be incurred, should our company attempt to accept your proffered business, would amount to \$60,000, and I am sure you will agree that this is too great, even among friends."

I still hope that some way will be found to do the business, when conditions return to normal, and to this end I am again addressing New York on the subject."

WHAT IS CONFIRMATION?

Stress is laid upon the expression in Walker's cable home already referred to, "have sold Dowler Forbes nails aggregating 21,000 kegs." But such a statement, even if intended literally, would not have amounted to an acceptance; for it was not addressed to plaintiff and another portion of the cable warns against "declination" of the "order"; showing that Wal-

ker knew that it had not been accepted. Indeed the sole purpose of the cable seems to have been to persuade the home office to reconsider and accept.

Much the same may be said of the cable of December 12, drafted by plaintiff's agent and signed at his request by Erricson, reading,

"We have confirmed to your Office here orders for 21,000 kegs 5 Dollars and 40 cents base, shipment not later than 30th April, have instructed our head office confirm this to you also. Liberty Steel Co."

Erricson's statement to the home office that "we have confirmed orders" would not constitute an acceptance to plaintiff. Besides it is undisputed that the language used was really plaintiff's, the cable being prepared on its paper and handed for signature to Erricson. Plaintiff's agent himself testifies that the purpose of the cable was one that related in no way to the negotiations in China and Erricson's signature, obtained as it was, could hardly have misled plaintiff.

Erricson's cable of November 15, answering plaintiff's inquiry, "Can supply 20,000, March, according to recent advices," was not an acceptance and was avowedly based on information from others. Besides it was after all of these cables that plaintiff wrote its letter to Walker expressing the hope "that your New York office has confirmed our orders."

JUDGEMENT FOR THE DEFENCE.

We find nothing inconsistent with the above in Erricson's letter of December 8 to the home office, merely setting forth in detail the orders he had secured from plaintiff or in his letter of February 5, 1920, to plaintiff announcing Walker's early "return to New York with the idea of facilitating pending business of which your nails are an important part." This was after plaintiff had been notified of the rejection of its orders by the home office but all still hoped evidently that the action might be reconsidered.

Plaintiff's hope of confirmation had, indeed, been so strong that, in reliance thereon, it made contracts, as Erricson and perhaps Walker, knew, to sell the nails to Chinese dealers. But this was plainly at its own risk. Doubtless all parties on the ground believed that the orders would be accepted but there was clearly the chance that they might not be and it is elementary that until they were there was no contract.

We are unable to find, therefore, that plaintiff has proven its averments that it entered into contracts with defendant. We must find instead that it tendered orders (offers) to Erricson which he neither possessed nor assumed authority to confirm (accept) but forwarded to defendant's home office which rejected them.

It is accordingly considered and adjudged that plaintiff take nothing by its petition and that defendant recover its costs.

U. S. v. Homer M. Darke.

Accused in this case was charged with the murder of a Chinese co-bowler by throwing him over the side of the U. S. S. Elcano into the Yangtze River, near Hankow, early in September.

Major C. P. Holcomb, U. S. District Attorney, prosecuted, while Mr. Paul M. Linebarger appeared for the defence.

In cross-examination, Major Holcomb brought out the fact that accused believed that it was he or the cobbler going overboard that made him drop the latter into the water.

Mr. Linebarger, in his argument, directed the attention of the Court to the fact that the Chinese was probably alive since the boat was only about 130 feet away from the Bund wall, a distance which could be swum by almost anybody. Counsel argued that such a presumption was more evident in view of the fact that the alleged deceased would have every motive in concealing himself since his family had succeeded in collecting an indemnity for the alleged drowning. The assault admitted by the accused, said counsel, was really the result of a drunken orgy in which he was the victim of the encouragement of his shipmates to commit the assault by making the bet that he, Darke, could not throw the Chinese into the water. Counsel then made an eloquent plea for the Court's leniency.

Replying, Major Holcomb declared that if accused pleaded drunkenness it was no excuse for the offence. Darke, submitted counsel, had admitted that he held the Chinese over the side of the ship in a dangerous position.

Judge Lobinger, giving his decision, stated that the murder had not been proved but a deliberate and unprovoked assault had been committed for which Darke would be found guilty. The Court accepted the assault as proven in spite of the contention that the Chinese had been thrown overboard only in sport. Although three months had elapsed since the actual happening, no proof had been presented to show that death had actually taken place. No one had seen the alleged deceased in or under the water, said his Honour, and in view of the nearness of the place to the shore the presumption that the man actually died was not clear. Accused, therefore, was sentenced to two years' imprisonment in Bilibid Prison, Manila, and a fine of \$500.

Shanghai, Dec. 13.

Ring Mow-zu v. The Wilkins Bros. Inc.

This case, which involves a claim of many thousands of dollars for defendants' alleged failure to deliver certain cotton spindles, was continued.

Messrs. Fleming, Davies & Bryan appeared for the plaintiffs while Mr. R. S. Haskell and Mr. S. Fesenden were for the defence.

At the outset of the day's hearing there was lengthy argument re-

garding amounts said to be owing to plaintiffs by defendants. Counsel for the defence stated that plaintiffs owed certain monies to defendant which had not been cleared up. Mr. Fleming denied that the plaintiffs were indebted to the defendants.

His Honour:—Indebted In these transactions?

Mr. Haskell: In transactions which are being considered in another case.

The Judge said he did not think it was necessary to take long testimony and suggested a conditional judgement, the amount of liability to be paid into Court. Mr. Haskell said the defendants admitted that they received Tls. 191,000 from the American Express Co., less seven per cent—or Tls. 13,424.65—which left a balance of Tls. 178,356.17. There was, however, a further 10 per cent. which plaintiff agreed to pay, leaving a balance of Tls. 176,572.56.

Mr. Fleming stated that the plaintiff claimed Tls. 178,356.17, but did not admit the other 10 per cent.

His Honour, to Mr. Haskell—You admit liability for Tls. 176,572.56?

Mr. Haskell—Defendant admits the indebtedness to the American Express Co. for the seven per cent. discount, but as against that we claim 10 per cent. on the amount which plaintiff receives in accordance with the contract.

His Honour—That is to say, you want three per cent. in addition to the one per cent. The whole question is whether the defendant is entitled to receive that three per cent., is it not?

Mr. Haskell—We have received Tls. 11,616.60 from plaintiff and we give him credit for that. But the plaintiff owes us Tls. 17,000, being one per cent. commission, less Tls. 11,616, leaving a balance of Tls. 5,383.40.

Mr. Fleming stated that the whole question was whether or not defendant was agent for plaintiffs. What was the use, he asked, of juggling with figures like this?

After some argument, Mr. Fleming suggested that a conference might take place in his office over the actual amount involved. Mr. Haskell accepted this suggestion, and the hearing of the case was then adjourned.

The case was continued on Wednesday morning. The Court suggested that a stipulation whereby the case be amicably settled should be drawn up and signed by counsel for both parties, such stipulation to be filed with the clerk of the Court. This suggestion was accepted by Messrs. Fleming, Davies & Bryan for the plaintiff, and Mr. R. S. Haskell for the defence.

QUITE a small sensation in Hong-kong has been caused by the failure of the Government to obtain a single bid for the site of the old post office, for which the upset price was \$1,906,000. All sorts of reasons are given for this, but the obvious one is the upset price.

THE "TRENCHES" SHOULD BE CLOSED

Mr. Schuhl Speaks Up

The shooting case in the "Trenches" which created a sensation in the earlier part of the week was mentioned at the United States Court for China on Thursday morning, when Mr. F. J. Schuhl, Commissioner, made an important pronouncement. In dealing with the class of house concerned, Mr. Schuhl said:—

"I desire to make a recommendation, but whether or not it can be carried out I am unable to say. I think these 'Trenches' should be closed, and will ask that the matter be taken up with the proper authorities to cancel all existing licences immediately. I would ask that the licence of the 'Eldorado' be the first to be cancelled. If this cannot be carried out, I would urge that no new licences be issued. The places are no good. They are a nuisance, not only to the residents of the Settlements, but to the community as a whole, especially those living in that vicinity."

Francis Quin, 26, second engineer on the str. Edgehill, was charged with being drunk and disorderly on Tiendong Road at 11.40 p.m. on Monday. Quin, who, it will be remembered, was a companion to Henry B. Furbush when the latter is alleged to have shot R. F. Hazelton at the Eldorado Bar on that night, stated that he had nothing to say as he remembered nothing. He had taken two drinks and was "knocked off."

Det. Insp. J. Cruickshank was the first witness called by Major C. P. Holcomb, District Attorney, who prosecuted on behalf of the U. S. Government. He said that Quin was brought to the Hongkew Police Station at about 12 o'clock by Sergt. Young in a condition which witness described as "absolutely and madly drunk." Accused was raving and swearing and wanted to fight. After being searched he was locked in the cells.

Sergt. Hubert Young testified that he was in the charge room on Monday night when a telephone message was received to the effect that a man had been shot in the Eldorado Bar and was then in the Hospital. As there were no detectives at the station at the time, witness went personally to the Hospital where he saw Quin struggling with a Chinese policeman. A Mr. Guedes told witness that a man had been shot but was being attended to. He then took Quin into custody. Quin was drunk and disorderly at the time and used language which was abusive and filthy.

Mr. Lucien M. Guedes, a clerk in the British American Tobacco Co., stated that he was in the Eldorado Bar on Monday night, when he saw accused and Furbush. He did not see them drink. Suddenly he heard a shot and saw Hazelton fall. Witness ran to find

the man who fired the shot, but did not succeed. He came back and, in company with a marine, a civilian and Quin, took Hazelton to the Hospital in a motor car. He did not see the shooting. On the way to the Hospital, Quin was disorderly, and wanted to fight witness. He (Quin) threatened to have revenge on witness for having him arrested. He did not manage to hit witness as the marine stopped him. When they arrived at the Hospital Quin remained outside while witness took Hazelton inside. Upon coming out, he again saw Quin. He then telephoned to the Police, and Sergt. Young came and arrested accused. Witness added that, on the way to the hospital, Hazelton told him to arrest accused or detain him as a principal witness in the shooting case.

Major Holcomb stated that the prosecution had proved its case and asked the Court to temporarily hold accused under bond at \$1,000.

Mr. Schuhl: No bond is necessary. The accused is found guilty and will be sentenced to 30 days' imprisonment and will be fined G.\$50 and costs. In case the District Attorney does not care to detain Quin as a witness, he can be turned over to his ship if it leaves port. The fine, however, must be paid. (Mr. Schuhl then made the recommendations referred to above.)

In the case against Furbush, Major Holcomb stated that he desired to amend his charge from attempted murder to assault and attempt to commit murder. He asked the Court to take notice of the fact that the man assaulted was in a very serious condition and the chances are that he will not recover. He asked that Furbush be held for preliminary hearing without bail.

Mr. M. L. Heen, counsel for Furbush, made no objection, so Mr. Schuhl remanded the case until December 28 at 9.30 a.m.

In this connexion, the Chinese police have arrested Wang Chi-ting of No. 100 N. Szechuen Road Extension, whom they charged with keeping his bar open after one o'clock, contrary to regulations. Wang said that he was not the owner of the premises, but that he was only an agent for certain foreigners who had the bar registered in his name. He was detained for several hours, then released upon signing a bond to observe the regulations.

Mr. Wang I-tze, Chinese Minister at Brazil, will shortly leave for Austria where he will occupy a similar position.

Nick Mikha and J. Dmitienvitch were charged before Messrs Li and Jacobs at the Mixed Court on Thursday morning by Det. Insp. Conduit with larceny. The two men are said to have been "ringing the changes" by going to various exchange shops changing gold into Mexican and vice versa, and stealing one or two dollars on each transaction. The case was remanded for one week.

"MOST REMARKABLE CASE"

Opium Smuggling

ALLEGATIONS BY COUNSEL FOR DEFENCE

The opium case which has occasioned forensic eloquence of unusual character at the Mixed Court was closed on Saturday, when the Italian Assessor (Mr. Ferajolo) and Magistrate Tsang passed sentence on the accused. The Chinese detective, formerly on the staff at Wayside, was sent to prison for one year, and the other three Chinese accused were sentenced to nine months each, to be afterwards expelled from the Settlement. The complainant was also fined \$300.

The accused were charged with obtaining \$300 under false pretences, and also with the larceny of opium to the value of \$1,120.

Mr. J. B. Davies, addressing the Court for the defence, described the case as one of the most remarkable that had ever been before the Court. On his own admission, complainant had engaged in the smuggling of opium into Shanghai. On the other hand, the principal defendant, the detective, who had worked faithfully in the Municipal Police force for 20 years and had a clean record, was brought to face charges made by a man who was a malefactor and a criminal.

The complainant had stated that he was employed by Messrs. Funder & Co., but in cross-examination he could only say that his business there was to stick on labels. Mr. Parlani owned Funder & Co. and, as the Court knew, Mr. Parlani had been charged in the Italian Consulate for maintaining shops for the purpose of selling opium. The complainant had said that he was bringing the opium to Shanghai for sale to chemists' shops, but he would not state which shops. The inference was obvious. He worked for Mr. Parlani, who had been charged with keeping chemists' shops at which opium was sold.

Wayside district, counsel concluded, was the worst in Shanghai for opium shops and dens, and the accused detective had been active in running down opium offenders. He was an obstacle to their operations, and the only way to get rid of him was to "cook" up a case such as this and get him dismissed from the force. The other three accused were "seconds" to this detective, and they also were a menace and had to be got rid of. The man who should have been charged was complainant himself.

Dr. Fischer agreed with Mr. Davies that the case had been a remarkable one. During its course, the defence had tried to intimidate the court and himself; but he had not been afraid. It was plain from the facts that the four accused had taken advantage of their position to rob people.

As for complainant's alleged connexion with opium shops, the defence had tried to implicate other people in this case, and reference had been made to a case in the Italian Consulate. This case had been dismissed, and no further comment was necessary.

MIXED COURT NOTES

Constable Killed in Motor-lorry Accident

An inquest was held by Magistrate Li and Mr. Hutchison (British Assessor) at the Mixed Court on Monday into the circumstances surrounding the death of Chinese P. C. No. 1093, who died from injuries received in an accident which occurred on Robison Road about 10.15 a.m. on the 11th instant.

Evidence was given to the effect that the deceased was a constable attached to Gordon Road Police Station and at 10.15 a.m. on the 11th instant was on duty on Robison Road when a motor-lorry, with "Warner" trailer attached, proceeding along the road from east to west, knocked him down, and also knocked down a coolie. The coolie was removed to hospital, suffering from severe scalp wounds, but the constable succumbed to his injuries before reaching the hospital. The accident, it was stated, occurred apparently through the chauffeur of the motor-lorry endeavouring to pass between another motor-lorry, stationary at the time, and two handcarts which were coming in the opposite direction. Seeing that he would be unable to pass safely, the chauffeur applied his brakes, thus causing the trailer to swerve to the north side of the road and to collide with the other lorry, at the same time knocking down the constable and the coolie. It was also stated that the lorry was being driven at an excessive speed, and that when requested by the constable to "slow down," the chauffeur did not do so. The lorry and trailer were the property of the Electricity Department, S. M. C., and the chauffeur was employed by that Department.

The Court returned a verdict that the constable, No. 1093, died as the result of being knocked down by the trailer of the motor-lorry, and ordered that the chauffeur be detained in custody, or produce \$500 shop security.

Burglar Brought to Book

The arrest and conviction of a Chinese tinsmith has probably brought to an end a series of burglaries committed in foreign houses in various parts of Shanghai, but more particularly in the Western district, during a period extending from the beginning of May until the end of November. In the course of his burglarious exploits the man stole property valued at close upon \$3,000.

According to the statement of Det.-Sgt. Quayle made at the Mixed Court on Monday, the accused had been handed over by the French police to answer charges of burglary

committed in the International Settlement. Accused's method had been to break the slats of window-shutters of foreign houses, put paper on the window panes, then break the panes and enter the house. There were 10 charges against him, and he was already under sentence of two years' imprisonment as the result of a conviction in the French Mixed Court. In some cases where burglaries had been committed, finger prints had been found which corresponded to those of the accused. In one case, the stolen property was found in the native city, but the accused had given no information as to where the remainder of the stolen property had been disposed of, except to say that the silverware had been melted down and disposed of in lump.

The accused admitted the charges and gave the names of two others who had acted as his accomplices from time to time.

The accused was sentenced to five years' imprisonment and expulsion from the Settlement.

The dates and places mentioned in the charges of burglary were as follows:—

On May 5, 1920, No. 389 Fokien Road; June 6, 30 Weihaiwei Road (Mrs. Brewster); July 18, 53 Avenue Road (Mr. Wilson); August 7, 6 Avenue Road (Mr. Patterson); August 12, 7 Avenue Road (Mr. Pelling); September 10, 1408 Avenue Edward VII (Mr. Cobbett); October 3, 18 Burkill Road (Mr. Tuckey); October 28, 108 Range Road (Mr. Shiro); November 4, 8 North Honan Road (Mr. Belyea), and November 19, 51 Carter Road (Mr. Fischer).

The Edinburgh Road Armed Robbery

Two men described as coolies were brought before the Court on Tuesday, on remand, charged with having been concerned together with others in entering an exchange shop in Edinburgh Road at 7.40 p.m. on November 15, and therein, under threats of violence, stealing the sum of \$175 in notes, Mexican dollars and small money.

The facts as related to the Court at a previous hearing were to the effect that about 7.20 p.m. on November 15 an armed robbery took place at an exchange shop near the corner of Edinburgh and Yuyuen Roads. Six men entered the shop, and it was reported by the inmates that two were armed with revolvers and two with knives. A foreigner named Mr. Burdett, who lives close by, heard the noise and went to the assistance of the inmates of the shop, but was compelled to retire owing to the threats of the robbers. After the robbery, five of the men went in a southerly direction along Edinburgh Road, and one of them went along Yuyuen Road. The latter was caught by Chinese P. C. 803, who had been informed of the affair by a richsha coolie. The richsha coolie had seen this man get into a richsha and had followed him up. When taken to the Police Station the man admitted that he

was one of the men who had robbed the shop, and told the name of the principal, who lived in a house near Lunghua.

As the result of this information the principal was arrested at a house near Lunghua, and had since died from a wound inflicted on him by Det.-Sgt. Yorke when effecting the arrest, but before his death he had given the names of others concerned in the robbery. This led to the arrest of the second accused now before the Court.

The Court made an order that the two accused be sent to the Arsenal for punishment, and if not executed there, they were to be returned to the Mixed Court for punishment.

Counterfeit Bank-Notes

Three servants and a compradore were before the Court on remand, charged with having on October 15 been concerned together in making counterfeit bank-notes, to wit, 4,500 bank-notes of 100 coppers each on the Hupeh Provincial Bank, with intent to put same into circulation.

The accused had been arrested in a raid made by the Police on a lodging-house in Fokien Road on the evening of October 15, when two of them were found stamping counterfeit notes and the notes were seized.

The case had occupied the attention of the Court during several hearings, in which Mr. R. C. Faithfull conducted the prosecution. Dr. Fisher represented the Chinese Government, and Major Chauncey P. Holcomb, Mr. Linebarger and Mr. Goldring appeared for the defence.

At the conclusion of Tuesday's hearing the Court ordered that the three men described as servants be handed over to the Hupeh authorities, and that the compradore be released on shop security of \$1,000 to be of good behaviour for two years.

A Charge of Wife-Murder

At the Mixed Court on Thursday morning, before Magistrate Yui and Mr. Tenney (American Assessor), a student named Liu Zung-sung was brought up on remand, charged with having on April 7 of this year murdered his wife, Liu Zung-may, by administering certain poisonous medicines.

Mr. P. M. Linebarger, who appeared in defence of the accused, said that this was a Chinese case from Nantao, and asked that it be dismissed and the warrant cancelled on the ground that the prosecution had failed to appear. There was no presumption of guilt against the accused, who had come to the Court the previous day and surrendered himself to answer the charge. He was charged with the murder of his wife. This was a false charge and was brought against him at the instigation of his father-in-law, who thought to extort money from him. There was a doctor's certificate to the effect that death was due to natural

causes. The father-in-law was in attendance at the time of the woman's death.

Evidence having been given as to the reasons for the complainant having failed to receive notification of the time of hearing of the charge, the case was remanded until Tuesday next, to give the City authorities time to notify the complainant.

Foreign Woman Charged

Before Magistrate Tsang and Mr. Jacobs (American Assessor), Mrs. A. T. Brun, described as a Rumanian subject, having no fixed abode, was charged with having behaved in a disorderly manner, whilst drunk, on the Broadway at 5.50 p.m. on the 15th instant. She was further charged with having assaulted C. P. C. 946 at the same time and place, whilst in the execution of his duty, and with having damaged his uniform.

The evidence for the prosecution was that, about 5.50 p.m. on the 15th instant, the accused was seen to come out of the Savoy Hotel and to call a ricscha. She was drunk, according to the evidence of the Chinese constable on duty near there, and there were no public ricschas there at the time. She went up to a private ricscha, owned by a Japanese, and on the ricscha coolie refusing to take her as a passenger, she slapped his face. Seeing that she was a foreign woman, C. P. C. 946 went up to explain matters and "make peace." She would not listen to him, but continued to assault the ricscha coolie. The constable took out his note-book and asked for her name and address, but she broke the pencil and threw the book on the ground. As she continued to assault the ricscha coolie, the constable went to pull her away, whereupon she slapped his face, knocked off his hat, tore his uniform and tore away his whistle. She was so disorderly that it was found necessary to take her to the Police Station.

Sub-Inspector Mackenzie said that there would be a difficulty if the accused was remanded, as there was no accommodation at the Police Stations for foreign females.

The accused said that she remembered leaving the Savoy Hotel at the time stated in the charge, and calling a ricscha, but nothing more. She had visited the hotel to see a lady friend.

The Assessor said that under the circumstances he would deal with the accused lightly. The Court would inflict a fine of \$5. At the same time he warned the accused as to her future conduct in the Settlement.

Forged Cheques

Before Magistrate Yui and Mr. Tenney (American Assessor), an unemployed Chinese was charged with having, on the 15th instant, forged the name of C. L. Clark on a cheque on the Oriental Banking Corporation, with intent to obtain the sum of \$270.

Det.-Sgt. Ashley stated that on the 15th instant a cheque for \$270 was presented at the Oriental Bank. It was given to a coolie by the accused, who had signed it himself. It was supposed to have been signed by Mr. Clark, a secretary of the Y. M. C. A., but the latter denied that he had signed the cheque or that he knew the man to whom it was made out. Two other cheque-books of the Oriental Bank were found in the possession of the accused, and several of the cheques contained therein had been signed in Mr. Clark's name. The accused admitted that he had signed these cheques, but denied that he had signed the one presented at the Bank.

The hearing was adjourned until Tuesday next.

"Olo Time Custom."

A shroff and a coolie were charged with having, about noon on the 15th instant, in a godown, No. 5 Yuen-ming-yuen Road, been concerned together in assaulting and injuring a coolie by striking him about the body and tying him to one of the godown windows with a rope.

Det.-Const. Tinkler said that about 2 p.m. on the 15th instant a Chinese reported at the Police Station that a man had been tied up in a godown and lashed to an iron grid. A Chinese constable was sent to the godown, and he

saw the complainant tied up there and cut him loose. Witness himself also went to make inquiries and was told by the complainant that he had been tied up by the coolie on the shroff's instructions. The shroff was very insolent to witness at first and would not say anything about the matter, telling him to go and see a foreigner. Witness then arrested the shroff and took him to the Station. The accused said that the complainant had been making trouble and they could not find a policeman. As a matter of fact, there was a policeman on duty quite near, if they had taken the trouble to look for him.

A witness gave evidence as to having seen the complainant tied up and reporting the matter at the Police Station.

The complainant said that he was a wheelbarrow coolie and on the date of the assault was engaged in unloading tea. He was told to put his cargo outside, and did so. Afterwards the shroff (first accused) told him to take it inside, and he refused to do so, saying that was the work of the godown coolies. The shroff then told the second accused to pull him in. The latter did so, and they tied complainant up and beat him.

The shroff stated that the complainant was fighting with the second accused, and he told complainant to call his foreman. The complainant refused to do so, and therefore they tied his limbs together, pending the arrival of the police. They tied him up with rope, but did not fasten him to anything, neither did they beat him.

The accused were fined \$20 each, or in the alternative sentenced to 20 days' imprisonment.

WITH reference to the rice stored in Pukow, reported exclusively in these columns a short time ago, the Chinese press reports that some 50,000 piculs has been detained by the local authorities. The report further states that a certain person has taken a large sum of money to Nanking to "make arrangements with the authorities. The result is being watched with interest."

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The Book Page

NOTES BY THE WAY

Shakespeare Sacked—A Short History of China—An American Study of the Great War.

M. Celestin Demblon, the well-known scholar and Socialist Deputy for Liège, has lately written a play which he called "The Mystery of Shakespeare." The theme of the drama is that the plays were not the work of Shakespeare; that the real author was Shakespeare's exalted contemporary, the Earl of Rutland. M. Demblon, who, among certain literary circles in England, passes for a literary "crank" but one of the uncommon parts, declares that his play "will be the greatest event of the age," and with characteristic modesty, he took advantage of a recent interview to discharge a flood of venom on the memory of Shakespeare. He explains the motif of his play by declaring that in it he has sought to show in the utmost detail, "why the Earl of Rutland was obliged to hide his identity under the borrowed name of William Shakespeare, once a butcher at Stratford, who became a clown in London, but never an actor. M. Demblon, who has devoted his energies to the Shakespeare problem for many years, has never learned to speak the native tongue of the poet, in spite of his familiarity with the text of his writings. Whatever other results M. Demblon's work may achieve, it is certain to cause a lively and interesting stir in rival camps at Stratford and St. Albans.

CHINA'S HISTORY IN BRIEF.

Mr. T. Fisher Unwin has recently issued, in the excellent "Story of the Nations" series, the short history of China, by Sir Robert K. Douglas, first published in 1899 and now brought up to date by Ian C. Hannah. Since its first appearance, this well known work has gone through four editions. There are few volumes dealing with the history of China in which the long story is so admirably compressed, and the beginner will find it a reliable as well as a highly interesting guide. It is, of course, no mere students' manual. The general reader can scarcely fail to be held by the author's skill in presenting the salient features of the great story and the principal actors therein. Mr. Hannah takes up the thread of the narrative from the Boxer rebellion, and his outline of subsequent events is compressed into a dozen or so pages, not very greatly to the reader's advantage, though doubtless exigencies of space compelled drastic editing.

The effect is somewhat unfortunate, tending to spoil the balance and proportion of what is otherwise an exceedingly well planned and interesting volume. There are, of course, a number of books available on recent history, so that the student is not seriously handicapped. In a later edition, the publishers would perhaps do well to bring their illustrations a little more up-to-date.

AN AMERICAN VIEW OF THE WAR.

To English readers, the interest of a recent volume—"A Brief History of the War," by Calton J. H. Hayes, Professor in History at Columbia University, lies in its reflexion of American opinion. It could have been no light task for Professor Hayes to outline the events of the great war, military and political, in a book of some 460 pages, and tribute may be paid at once alike to his thoroughness and to his sincerity. The writer is of opinion that the second battle of the Marne, in July 1918, was even more momentous and disastrous for the Germans than the first battle of the Marne in September 1914. That, doubtless, is a view naturally and very widely held in the United States, but it is not a view which, as a matter of history, can or should command ready assent. The German loss of initiative in September 1914 really decided the fortune of France and the course of European history. Contrary to the common and prevalent notion on the point, the issue of wars is shaped by earlier battles much more than by later. Closer survey, of the factors shows that the Germans could not have gained the second battle of the Marne save by a "fluke" and these things are not determined by "flukes."

THE SUPREME COUNCIL DISASTER.

There is the further point of of criticism, that the Professor deals with the first battle of Ypres as though it were a question of the Germans reaching or not reaching the Channel ports. True, there was that in it, but the question of reaching the Channel ports was after all secondary. The German plan was to use the central position of the empire to hurl the main force as a mass first west, then east, and to crush opposition on the two fronts in turn. The defeat at Ypres compelled Germany, dividing her force, to face the opposition west and east simultaneously. This radical and grave change of plan was the root of all later difficulties, for it added enormously to the pace of the "attrition" of her forces, and to the effect of the blockade. On these points the Professor has fallen in with cur-

rent ideas, but it is certain that history will not endorse them. He has accepted furthermore the current report that resistance to the Allied unity of command arose from mutual jealousy among the generals, Haig, Pétain and Cadorna. For this report there never was a shadow of foundation, the "Westminster Gazette" affirms, adding that the resistance came from the British War Cabinet which wedded to the scheme of a Supreme War Council, only capitulated at the last moment, at Doullens in March 1918. The Professor seems to think that the Supreme War Council had a measure of success. But from first to last it was a failure, and the most costly of British reverses, that of March 1918, 1919, is directly attributed to it.

KOREA UNDER JAPANESE RULE

An Economic Survey

This volume, which is a companion volume to the same author's "Economic History of Manchuria," may be divided into two parts, the first dealing with the history of Korea before the Japanese protectorate, and the second with subsequent history. We think the reader will find the former the more interesting. The vicissitudes of Korea in ancient times, the characteristics of the natives, the trades, the coinage and other matters are dealt with clearly and concisely. After the protectorate of Japan and subsequent annexation by that country the author gets a trifle wearisome with long lists of statistics illustrating the progress in various matters under the Japanese rule.

JAPAN'S CLAIM TO KOREA.

He claims that Japan had to annex the country as it was unable to take care of itself and from its geographical position was a constant menace if ever in the dominion of a hostile power. However this may be Japan has assumed complete control of the country. It must be admitted, however, that material progress has been made in the past few years. The chaotic conditions prevailing with respect to the coinage and taxation have been handled with that attention characteristic of the Japanese, and the uniformity introduced must tend largely to the advantage of Korea. Railways are being built, harbours enlarged, roads opened up all over the peninsula, afforestation undertaken, all tending to bringing the country into line with other more advanced nations. The Korean inhabitant is

an agriculturist and seems by temperament disinclined to turn to factory life and in consequence the vast majority of new factories are controlled by Japanese. And the same remark may be made with respect to mining, with the addition in this connexion that foreign enterprise does not appear to be encouraged. A rather significant remark is made by the author (at page 140) where in speaking of iron mines he remarks that their development "will go far towards the solution of the much discussed iron problem" i.e. the shortage of that metal in Japan.

JAPAN'S EXCLUSIVE INTERESTS.

In general, it may be assumed from the various tables and statistics supplied that in all Korean enterprises Japan is the principal figure. The principal portion of the exports of Korea go to, and most of her imports come from that country, and it would seem that other countries will in the near future have but little interest in the trade of Korea. Whether this will be for the future real advancement of that country is a problem which time alone can solve. If at any time the trade of Japan is bad that must inevitably react with disastrous effect on the trade of Korea.

POWER OF THE BANK.

It is natural that the volume devotes a certain number of chapters to the history of the Bank of Chosen. Originally it was founded as the central bank for Korea, and has always endeavoured to function in that sphere. Circumstances have forced it, however, to extend its actions to commercial operations and in particular the excess of imports over exports has led it to set up branches in Manchuria to ensure financial stability in the country of its origin. It is very clearly shown how the bank has from year to year gone from strength to strength and at present is a factor and must be reckoned with in financial operations in the Far East. If the author's desire was to illustrate the rise of the Bank he has certainly succeeded in his object.

AMONG THE CRITICS

"Whenever two Englishmen are speaking French to a Frenchman you may safely diagnose in the breast of one of the two humiliation, envy, ill-will, impotent rage, and a dull yearning for vengeance; and you may take it that the degree of these emotions is in exact ratio to the superiority of the other man's performance.—*Max Beer-bohm.*"

"She (Pavlova) danced the dying swan. A feather fell from her costume. One man said: 'Moulting.' Such was the whole of their conversation. It is this kind of thing that infuriates me against audiences, and against English audiences in particular. It annoys me more than the laughter, half-hysterical, half-loutish, which even in West-end theatres seldom fails to

punctuate a poignant moment in a play.—*Arnold Bennet.*"

"The trouble is that almost all the writers who examine national qualities are lured into false generalization and are, at the same time, more intent on cataloguing differences than in recognizing the really amazing number of similarities.—*Sidney Dark.*"

"We have no right to assume that civilization always advances; often it stands still and even recedes—owing to some decadence; and it may recede in the Europe of to-morrow as it did in the India of yesterday. That is a terrible thought.—*Sir Ronald Ross.*"

"No matter how civilized he may be, man has never shaken off the fear aroused by the unknown or the unusual which he inherits from his proto-human ancestors."

"The fact cannot be over-emphasized, that man, as a creature of emotion, has an immense past; as a creature of reason, he is only of yesterday.—*Edward Clodd.*"

"The poetic drama fails to thrive now, not only because the public is stupid, but also because there is usually a divorce between the poetry and the drama in it.—*The Times.*"

"According to our lights, we do not see it to be the province of the artist to paint in detail the merely sordid. It is his duty to realize the worst for himself, but he must be careful how he allows that dread knowledge to colour his narrative, lest he suffer his reader to see the broad ocean of life as a mere whirlpool of despair. If his experience lead him so to regard it, let him cherish the logic of silence, and refrain from adding another stone to the monument of nothingness. He that despairs is logically dead: if he live, his life is a farce and the expression of his opinions an impertinence.—*Conal O'Riordan, in "Adam of Dublin."*"

Eighty fishermen of Inatori, Shizuoka Prefecture, were caught out at sea by a storm recently and most of them are probably drowned as a result of the failure of motor boats, sent to their rescue, to successfully pass the breakers. Nineteen boats from the village were caught by the sudden outbreak and none of them have returned. Pieces of wrecked boats have been washed ashore and there are indications that bodies have been thrown upon the shores of the neighbouring uninhabited islands. When the news spread that the boats were cut off from the coast, the fire brigades attempted to go to the rescue in motor boats, but were driven back by the high seas. The Shizuoka police were asked to request the naval station at Yokosuka to send a warship to the rescue, but night came and women, old men and children still lined the shores with little basis of hope for the rescue of the fishermen of the village.

"ROMEO AND JULIET"

The Sources of the Story

Mr. George Brandes, the Danish Shakespearean scholar, in his introduction to "Romeo and Juliet" in Heinemann's "Favourite Classics" (6d. each), says that the story was an old one. It is to be found in a novel by Masuccio of Salerno, published in 1476. Luigi da Porta probably made use of it in 1530, and after him Bandello with his tale, and upon it an English writer founded a play of "Romeo and Juliet" which seems to have been popular in its day—before 1562. This particular play has been lost.

"THE TRAGICAL HISTORY."

An English poet, Arthur Brooke, found in Bandello's "Novella" the matter for a poem: "The tragical History of Romeus and Juliet, written first in Italian by Bandell and now in English by Ar. Br." Upon the poem "which resembles the narrative style of a clever child," Shakespeare founded his play. In the poem the two leading characters, Friar Laurence, Mercutio, Tybalt, the Nurse, and the Apothecary, says M. Brandes, "were ready to his hand in faint outlines. Romeo's fancy for another woman immediately before he meets Juliet is also here set forth at length; and the action as a whole follows the same course as in the tragedy":—

Here, more than anywhere else, has Shakespeare shown in all its intensity the dual action of an absorbing love in filling the soul with gladness to the point of intoxication, and at the same time with despair at the very idea of parting.

Modern critics in Germany and Sweden are agreed in regarding it as a purely sensual passion, by no means admirable—nay, essentially reprehensible. They insist that there is a total absence of maidenly modesty in Juliet's manner of feeling, thinking, speaking and acting. She does not really know Romeo, they say; is there anything more, then, in this unashful love than the attraction of mere bodily beauty?

As if it were possible thus to analyze and discriminate! . . . It is no love of the head that Juliet feels for Romeo . . . It is based upon instinct, the infallible instinct of the child of nature, and it is in her, as it is in him, a vibration of the whole being in longing and desire, a quivering of all its chords, from the highest to the lowest, so intense that neither he nor she can tell where body ends and soul begins.

THE BEST EVER PENNED.

Mr. Brandes gives the following as the most exquisite words of love ever penned:—

With love's light wings did I o'er-perch these walls;
For stony limits cannot hold love out.

or
It is my soul that calls upon my name:
How silver-sweet sounds lovers' tongues by night,
Like softest music to attending ears!

Shakespeare's every word "is steeped in sensuous—spiritual ecstasy."



REFLEXIONS OF THE LIFE OF BEETHOVEN

Shanghai music lovers commemorated by a concert last week an event of a century and a half ago which has exerted untold influence on the world. In December 1770 Ludwig von Beethoven was born in Bonn, destined to be one of the greatest composers with whom mankind has been blessed. Art and genius know no race, creed, or nationality. They are universal; and as long as the human heart responds through the ear to all that is beautiful, harmonious and inspiring, so long will Beethoven's memory be fragrant.

FIDELIO.

Sincerity was a keynote of his nature. When giving final instructions to his biographer he said, "Tell the truth with severe fidelity of me and all connected with me, without regard to whom it may hit, whether others or myself." This is an element essential to genius of any kind, and often overlooked or discounted by critics because of their inability to understand with the same mind, or see with the same vision. A genius may be likened to a man standing on a mountain top, who catches the first gleam of the rising sun. He may signal his vision to the crowd on the plains below, and they may aver that he is insincere and sees nothing, simply because they do not yet see. But time proves his fidelity, and the crowd eventually basks in the warming rays which the genius first caught and interpreted to them.

Although of a very vehement nature, and of uncompromising democracy, paying no heed to rank or power other than that of solid worth, he was early acknowledged a genius and received in the highest circles. Many people of position and wealth desired to aid him, making the struggle for existence unknown, and the first 30 years of his life a period of unclouded sunshine. His compositions during this time exhibit the strength, virility, and uncompromising freedom of his whole life, but affect us with delight in his wildly free nature rather than with the pathos of his later works when tragedy entered his life and made him stern and disdainful.

THE CRITICS PERPLEXED.

There was a curious reserve manifested in the midst of his unyielding faithfulness to truth. He drew a marked line between his personal honour and his life as an artist. As to the former he was inflexible. In the latter he was distinctly non-

resistant. He was not the first man who, at the zenith of genius, was called mad. When critics said of one of his greatest works, "We do not understand it; we never had such thoughts; we cannot even read and execute them," he calmly ignored their ingratitude. For he knew full well that lack of comprehension or culture is often the cause of classing divine visitations as magic or imbecility. He simply replied, "If it amuses those people to say or to write such things of me, do not disturb them"; because he was an artist by nature, and could not lay aside the work to which he had set his hand to weep either indignant or pitying tears.

MAN THE GREAT TEST.

Beethoven never lost sight of the truth that when man is endowed with a divine gift, this spirit must not only be ascendant over the material in his own life, but that this gift bears with it the obligation on the possessor to pass on the light to other men. This was the guiding principle of his work. At the same time there was nothing of the patronizer about him. His high sense of responsibility never led to arrogance. And conversely, servile homage was to him a thing abhorred. He said in one of his letters to Julietta, "I am persecuted by kindness, which I think I wish to deserve as little as I really do deserve it. Humility of man before man—it pains me; and when I regard myself in connexion with the universe, what am I? and what is he whom they name Greatest? And yet there is the godlike in man." True to the artist in him he believed in absolute equality in the world of souls, recognizing in man only the *man*, considering rank and wealth as unimportant accidents, and regarding as degradation the bowing of genius before Mammon.

Vulgarity was torture to the great composer, both in his life and in his art, and we find his life as unsullied by impurity and sordidness, as we find his work proud, magnificent, free,—a very breath from the Divine.

HIS DEAFNESS.

We would not convey for a moment the notion that Beethoven was perfect, for, if nothing else, he was human. The enviable qualities of gentleness and forbearance were never his dower. He admitted this himself, and while of a deeply loving nature, was stern, often quick of temper, at times unforgiving, and frequently irritable. In the fourth decade of his life a malady came upon him which was destined to enhance these qualities, and reflect them more and more in

his work. It was tragic indeed that in the prime of his life he was denied, through incurable deafness, the enjoyment of those delights which he lived to lavish on the world.

Never complaining of his severe affliction, it was yet necessary for him to withdraw from much of the intercourse which he had so much enjoyed. That he felt his virtual exile deeply is reflected in the note of tragedy, sadness, at times bitterness, in his later compositions. His impatience grew. When Hummel once submitted a new work which Beethoven thought bad, the latter tore it in shreds. Another composer, Moscheles, heard of the incident and when sending his next composition to the master wrote underneath it, "Finis—with the help of God." His work did not suffer a like fate, but his presumption received a jar when he received the manuscript back with the words in Beethoven's hand subscribed to the footnote, "Man, help thyself."

NO BARRIER TO GENIUS.

These words were never truer than in Beethoven's own case. Although he was like a painter unable to see his finished picture, he went ahead with his work, exploring to the depths the hidden recesses of his own heart and mind. Deprived of outward energy, he strengthened his inner faculties. Having been made to drink to the dregs the cup of bitterness, he was yet victorious; and from his soul there continued to pour till his death strains of music that in power, intense passion and tenderness have never been equalled, whether in sweet melodies or in complex harmonies. His indomitable persistence is expressed in his favourite maxim, which was the key of his life: "The barriers are not yet erected which can say to aspiring talent and industry, thus far and no farther."

Banana Blouses for Belles

Next year's dressmaking horrors may include banana costumes and blouses, and pineapple jumpers.

A French inventor who has lived many years in Nicaragua and Brazil has invented a machine which extracts weavable threads from the banana, pineapple, and other fibrous plants.

The wild pineapple leaf, for example, gives a thread more than six feet in length; the effect is said to be that of a mixture of cotton and silk.

The process is similar to that employed in the preparation of flax.

WINTER HATS

To listen to young men discussing the dress and general appearance of the girls of to-day is quite an education in taste. I have often gathered very valuable hints in this way says a correspondent of the London "Daily News" and occasionally their worldly-wise criticisms have proved really illuminating.

THE "ONE-IN-TWENTY" GIRL.

Last week, for instance, I heard a bright young fellow commenting on the sad difference between the charm of summer and winter girls. "Just notice them in the park on a sunny day," he said, "they are mostly worth looking at then. But go there when there is a nip of frost in the air, and only one girl in 20—if that—will look the least bit attractive, though now I come to think of it, I believe it is often the hats that are wrong more than the girls themselves."

In that last sentence lies a mine of wisdom. I had not realized it before, but it is certainly true that the average girl does not choose nearly such becoming hats in the summer. It is far easier to look nice on a bright, warm day, but for that very reason extra care must be given to the choice of a hat for cold weather.

SNUG AND COMFORTABLE LOOKING.

Generally speaking, a snug appearance should be aimed at rather than a picturesque one. The large-brimmed hat should be avoided, and equally so should the no brimmed one, except for girls who do not feel the cold, and so do not get that ugly pinched look an east wind invariably gives. A hat fitting well on the head, with a small brim that makes a picturesque frame to the face, will be found most generally becoming for wear on a cold windy day. The actual shape and size of the brim, of course, depends entirely on the face of the wearer.

THE CLOSE-FITTING VEIL RETURNS.

Veils, again, form another important part of a cold day hat. The floating veil looks most attractive when arranged well, but a high wind blowing it all about your face makes it anything but becoming. Close fitting veils are being worn with a number of the new hats this season, and I most certainly recommend them for comfort and appearance on cold windy days.

THE PETAL BRIM.

A simple but very fashionable model that would make an ideal cold-weather hat has a scalloped brim of peacock blue gathered taffetas that makes a pretty face look as if framed in flower petals. The soft draped crown is of black hatters' plush, and this fits well on the head and keeps it warm and comfortable. Falling over the back of the brim is a graceful black feather.

FEATHERS CURLED AND STRAIGHT.

Feathers in great variety are seen again in many of the newest models. You can wear the beautiful curled ostrich feathers or the more freaky looking uncurled ones. Cocks' feathers are very popular, either for making complete hats or as trimmings. A very beautiful little round hat made all of green cock feathers had every feather edged with dull gold. It must have been a very tiresome job to do, but the effect was really quite worth the trouble, though only very big purses could pay the price that was charged for this hat.

THE BABY AND HIS TOOTH

Said a dentist: "Ninetenths of the children brought here to me for treatment are improperly fed."

It sounded a sweeping assertion, but he continued:—

"I judge by their teeth. We laugh at the ignorance of poor folk who boast that they give their babies what they have themselves, but well-to-do people err just as much in another direction. They feed their little ones too long on sloppy food."

THE BABY'S CRUST.

"After all, what are teeth for, but to chew? As soon as the baby's teeth are through, it should

be given food to bite—rusks, toast, crusts, and so forth. Instead of that, the two-year old and younger babies are set in high chairs, with a bib tied round, and sloppy food, is spooned down the sometimes resisting mouth by the nurse.

"The baby swallows such food without salivation, and the results are toothache and digestive troubles. We are rearing a race of bolters."

Observation seems to bear out the dentist's contentions. Half the boys and girls of school age swallow down their food in chunks, with what Joe Gargery would have called "a wery uncommon bolt."

The two-year-olds whom I know are invariably fed on bread and milk, porridge, mashed potatoes and gravy, the last being followed by a milky pudding, aptly described by a little French friend of mine as "a milky poultice." Thus the habit of bolting food, without chewing it, is formed in infancy. It is quite common in well-to-do nurseries to see all the crusts cut off from the bread and butter consumed by children of four, five, and even six years of age.

"But my children can't eat crusts," declares a mother.

DAINGEROUS DIET.

Of course they can't if their mouths have been made tender by food fermentation, caused by their sloppy diet. The teeth become atrophied from want of use, and the poor child's unfortunate stomach is expected to do the work that should have been done by the teeth.

The baby who begins to use his teeth as soon as they are through will form the habit of masticating his food to the benefit of his teeth and digestion, and, therefore, of his ultimate health and happiness.



Winter suit of wool velours. Long jacket, half fitted to the figure. It is trimmed with silk braid and same buttons. Inset fronts and hip bands, passementerie olives. Beaver collar and cuffs. Plain skirt.

FROM THE FOUR WINDS

ARE THE WORKERS EXTRAVAGANT?

Labour Leaders Heckle a Bishop

The Bishop of Bradford faced a conference of Labour representatives for two hours in the Trades Hall at Bradford, and answered a volley of questions on points arising out of a sermon he delivered at the Cathedral a few weeks ago.

For twenty minutes questions relating to the Church's attitude on social problems, on nationalization, extravagance, and "ca canny" were hurled at the Bishop from all quarters.

He was allowed a similar length of time to reply, and the remainder of the time was devoted to full expression of views.

The Bishop thoroughly enjoyed his experience.

Asked to give specific instances of extravagance among workers, the Bishop quoted over-indulgence in strong drink, adding, "Take my old parish, Plymouth. During the railway strike several women came to me and said that was the first time they had ever heard that their husbands received a war bonus."

"There was a surplus of something like 21s. per week. The men's wives were not getting it, so there must have been waste and extravagance somewhere."

"Waste and extravagance, whether among the wage-earning or the capitalist classes, was morally wrong. When one walked down Bond-Street and other places the reckless spending of the rich was appalling, especially when they compared it with the want in the East End."

He condemned the "ca' canny" policy. If a bricklayer could lay 1,000 bricks a day he ought to be allowed to lay 1,000 bricks. He could not imagine why a man should be stopped from working his best by any rules.

THE "Times" of October 28 reports:—The P. & O. S. Delta 8,800 tons, from Bombay for London, was in collision during the fog early yesterday morning off Southend, with the British str. Wimbledon, from Antwerp. The Delta was holed on the port side, and as her stokehold was filling, she was beached south of the Chapman Light. The passengers, numbering about 100, were all safely landed and arrived in London last evening. The stem and bows of the Wimbledon were damaged, but the vessel was able to proceed to Greenhithe.

OXFORD'S GOODWILL

An influential body of professors and doctors of Oxford University have addressed the following letter to the professors of the Universities and learned societies in Germany and Austria:—

Since there will be many of you who fully share our heartfelt sorrow and regret for the breach that the war has occasioned in our friendly intercourse, and since you cannot doubt the sincerity of the feeling which engendered and cherished that old friendliness, you must, we believe, be sharing our hope for its speedy re-establishment.

We, therefore, the undersigned doctors, heads of houses, professors, and other officers and teachers in the University of Oxford, now personally approach you with the desire to dispel the embitterment of animosities that under the impulse of loyal patriotism may have passed between us.

In the field where our aims are one, our enthusiasms the same, our rivalry and ambitions generous, we can surely look to be reconciled, and the fellowship of learning offers a road which may—and, if our spiritual ideals be alive, must—lead to a wider sympathy and better understanding between our kindred nations.

While political dissensions are threatening to extinguish the honourable comity of the great European States, we pray that we may help to hasten that amicable reunion which civilization demands. *Impetret ratio quod dies impetratura est.*

WHITE AUSTRALIA

New Rules for Chinese Immigration

The following statement from the Chinese press will, if true, be read with much interest:—

"Through the efforts of Mr. Wei Tze-chun, the Chinese Consul-General in Australia, an arrangement has been arrived at with the Australian immigration authorities whereby Chinese merchants' families and students may be permitted to land in Australia."

"Chinese students have been allowed to remain in Australia for an unlimited number of years provided they do not carry on any activities other than study. Failure to comply with these rules means deportation."

"Families of Chinese merchants (who have hitherto been prohibited from landing) may be allowed to land provided they produce regular passports issued by the Chinese Government. In case of the death of the merchants, the Chinese Government will be responsible for the repatriation of the widows and children."

"Chinese travellers will be permitted to stay in Australia for one

GIRL SCOUT WEEK IN AMERICA

Tents Erected in Washington Parks

Nov. 8—Ministers of every faith spoke in the interests of the Girl Scout on "Girl Scout Sunday" in Washington yesterday. The local scouts are planning an exhibition, showing part of the scouts' educational campaign at 1218 F street at 4.30 o'clock this afternoon, which will serve as the official opening of Girl Scout week and will begin the scouts' seven-day campaign to enlist the support and sympathy of the people of the District in their work.

GOVERNORS SHOW INTEREST.

As a preliminary to the official campaign, the scouts staged a pageant on the south steps of the Treasury building at noon Saturday.

Girl Scout week is a national event, in which over 80,000 scouts in the United States, Hawaii, Porto Rico and Alaska are participating. Governors of practically every State in the union have proclaimed November 8 to 15 as Girl Scout week and have indorsed the work of the organization.

The Washington campaign is under the direction of Mrs. Frederick Brooke, scout commissioner. Mrs. Brooke is assisted by the following officers of the organization; Mrs. William M. Scudder, treasurer; Mrs. Roger Boyle, secretary, and Mrs. Charles R. Lindsay, chairman of the scout captains' club. Mrs. Robert L. Bailey is in charge of the demonstration this afternoon.

TENTS IN THE PARKS.

As a part of their programme the scouts will erect tents in several of the most popular parks of the city, where those who wish to learn more about scouting can secure literature and information. It is the desire of the scouts that every man or woman or child in Washington interested in scouting shall receive full information as to the purposes and scope of the movement.—"Washington Post."

AMONG the goods carried on October 20 by the Handley Page air mail to Amsterdam were packages containing 200 lb. of women's "transformations," or human hair, imported from China. The net value of the consignment was £1,350.

year provided the applicant is able to produce a Chinese passport *vised* by the British Consul at the port of embarkation in China."

THE CATAMARAN

A New Water Sport at Redondo

Can the catamaran?

Never!

Can you catamaran? No?

Well, Miss Avis Coffey can—and does—to the intense interest and delight of those who are fortunate enough to see her with her catamaran in the surf at Redondo Beach, California.

The catamaran is one of the strangest looking of the smaller sea-craft and, like the surf-board, it is absolutely unsinkable. Although it may be overturned, floated on its side, or "stood on its head," it's all the same to the catamaran, which smilingly reiterates "I can."

It was introduced to the United States by that peerless aquatic performer, the late Capt. George Freeth, of Honolulu, who brought the surf-board to the coast and taught the uninitiated how to "ride" a surf-board and how to "shoot" a catamaran over the pelucid waters of the Pacific.

As with the surf-board, one needs to be dressed in bathing costume best to manipulate a catamaran, for the operator will undoubtedly get well drenched with the salt sea spray. The catamaran is constructed like twin rowboats, with the exception that the tops are covered making air-tight interiors. These are firmly joined together and a seat for the rower built about 18 inches above the water. Thus the water surges in between the boats, underneath the seat, and, as in swimming, the novice must become accustomed to being slapped in the face with the waves and the spray. Locks are built in on either side for the oars with which the catamaran is operated.

A BIG PLYMOUTH SCHEME

A big scheme has been launched by the Admiralty at Plymouth in connexion with the naval port of Plymouth.

Eighty acres of land at Wilcove, just above Torpoint, have been purchased from General Sir Reginald Carew as the site of a great oil fuel depot. It is expected that three years will be required to complete the scheme.

So far, 28 huge tanks are planned, but more will be added. A beginning is being made with eighteen. The work begun already includes excavations, for which a considerable number of men were engaged from the local Labour Exchange. As the scheme progresses more labour will be required, while boiler-makers who would otherwise have been discharged are being retained.

Satisfaction is felt not only because of the work provided, but because of this indication that

Plymouth is not to lose its importance as one of the greatest of naval ports.

The depot, which is for the Navy, will be one of the most extensive of its kind in the world.

OLD LONDON

Wonders of Exeter Change

The Earl of Rosebery, in unveiling the tablet on Holly Lodge, where Macaulay lived three or four years before his death, asked whether it was not an immense relief to the eye and to the thoughts for anyone in the habit of taking long walks in London to come across a memorial of some distinguished person, which would relieve the intolerable pressure of the monotony of endless streets. The value of the memorial tablet is undoubted, but there are other things for anyone with imagination and a sense of history, to bring back the London of the past.

There is Burleigh-street, where immediately to the east stood Exeter House. The site of the house was once occupied by the rectory of St. Clement Danes. Sir Thomas Palmer erected a "large and spacious" house on the ground, and after his execution for treason in 1533 the place was granted to Sir William Cecil, Lord Burleigh, who practically rebuilt it at enormous expense. On Burleigh's death the house came to his son, who was created Earl of Exeter, and the name was changed to "Exeter House." After the Great Fire the place passed through various hands, and in 1676, when Lord Shaftesbury moved to Thanet House, the old Exeter House was pulled down to make way for streets and buildings.

EVE AN INHABITANT.

By far the most important of these buildings was Exeter 'Change. The east end projected into the street, and the pavement went through it, and it was not until a later period that the footway ran round it, thus making the street extremely narrow. The 'Change had "two walks below stairs, and as many above, with shops on each side for Semsters, Milenners, Hosiers, etc." Part of the 'Change became a sort of menagerie, run successively by Pidcock, Polito, and Cross. An old newspaper paragraph, headed "Adam and Eve in Paradise," reads as follows:

As everything that calls our attention to the situation of our first parents must prove peculiarly interesting to every member in society, that beautiful serpent, the boa constrictor, now exhibiting at Mr. Cross's menagerie, Exeter Change, is particularly recommended to public inspection; nor can we avoid making considerable allowance for Eve's tergiversation when we perceive the peculiar beauty, subtlety, and docility of the animal. We at the same time recommend a general view of the immense collection of birds and beasts that are in the same establishment, from every quarter of the Globe, consisting of some

WORK FOR WOMEN

Actresses Architects, and Cooks

After six months' activity the Central Committee on Women's Training and Employment are able to report excellent results.

For the most part the women who have benefited by training facilities—by receiving financial aid to cover maintenance or fees or both—come from those whose only previous employment had been in war work. The W.A.A.C., W.R.N.S., W.R.A.F., V.A.D., Women's Land Army, and Women's Legion account for 45 per cent. of the grants already made from the £500,000 allocated by the National Relief Fund, and ex-munition workers, temporary Government clerks, disabled nurses not entitled to pensions, are being helped to qualify themselves for suitable occupations. The Committee have assisted a few young girls to continue their education at school with a view to qualifying for a profession.

Among the positions for which women are being trained, partly or wholly at the expense of the fund, are those of:

Actress,	Massenuse,
Architect,	Midwife,
Chiropodist.	Nursery nurse,
Dentist,	Poultry and dairy
Doctor,	farmer,
Fashion artist,	School matron,
Health visitor,	Secretary,
High-class cook,	Social worker,
Housekeeper,	Research worker,
Journalist,	Teacher.
Lawyer,	

For every one training for the stage, and every four training for medicine, 15 are studying to be midwives; for every four preparing for a musical career, 50 are qualifying as teachers; for every eight who desire to become lawyers 100 are seeking to fit themselves for some form of domestic employment.

Among the candidates who can claim to be eligible under the Committee's scheme on the grounds of changed family circumstances due to the war are, not only women, but girls from the age of 16 upwards who, on account of this fact, find themselves in the position of having to leave school before their education has been completed, or to enter the labour market without training.

Mr. George P. Waller of Montgomery, Alabama, who has served during the last five years as senior vice-consul at the United States Consulate-General in Athens, Greece, reached Kobe recently as American Vice-Consul at that port.

of the largest and noblest lions we have ever seen, including two beautiful young cubs.

Byron came to the menagerie to see the animals feed, and there he once discovered a hippopotamus "like Lord Liverpool." Mr. Cross carried on the business from 1814 till 1828, and in the following year Exeter 'Change was demolished.

GENERAL GORGAS

The Panama Canal Zone Sanitarian

September 23.—By the death in London of Surgeon-General William C. Gorgas, U. S. A., the nation and the world lost the one man who most fully embodied for the popular imagination the modern mastery of disease by science. His name is linked for all time with the suppression of yellow fever and malaria in the Panama Canal Zone; for he directed the work and made noble use of the body of knowledge established by the researches of Finlay, Reed, Carroll, Agramonti, and Lazear.

We quote from the "Scientific Monthly" for August a summary of General Gorgas's achievements in the field of preventive medicine:

"He was graduated from the University of the South and from the Bellevue Hospital Medical College, and became an army surgeon in 1880. He saw service in Florida, in the West, and on the Mexican border, and had risen to the rank of major in 1898, when he was with the expedition against Santiago. Thence he was sent to Havana to be the chief sanitary officer of that city during the American occupation.

"Cuba was a centre of yellow fever and Dr. Carlos Finlay, of Havana, had proposed the theory that mosquitoes were the carriers. The truth of this theory was proved and many of the conditions of infection determined by the American Army Commission, consisting of Reed, Carroll, Agramonti, and Lazear. Immediately following this investigation and based upon its scientific findings, Gorgas succeeded in practically eliminating yellow fever in Havana and throughout the island.

"Congress, in recognition of this work, in 1903, by special act made him colonel and assistant surgeon-general, and then, a year later, he was sent to Panama, becoming chief sanitary officer of the Canal Zone, in 1904, and a member of the Canal Commission in 1907. In the days of the old French company, which attempted to build the Panama Canal, tropical diseases annually claimed one-fourth of all its workers. The French were powerless before this pestilence. When Gorgas became general sanitary officer of the Canal Commission the annual death toll had been reduced, but it was still difficult to obtain the vast army of workmen necessary and to care for those disabled by malaria, yellow fever, and dysentery. In nine years, by a systematic campaign for the destruction of the mosquito as the carrying agent of disease, and by other sanitary measures, Gorgas virtually drove these diseases from the Isthmus. When he gave up the work, deaths among the Canal workers had been re-

MR. WELLS'S VIEWS ON RUSSIA

Mr. H. G. Wells arrived in Reval on October 18, on his homeward journey from Soviet Russia to England. Persons who interviewed the novelist, and whose statements are above suspicion, say that he stated that the conditions within the country were horrible, almost beyond description, but that he was chiefly taken up with a project which had been fully worked out between himself and Maxim Gorki for the establishment in Russia of a refugee colony for men of science, arts, and the learned professions. The object of such a colony would be to save such of the *intelligentsia* who have not already been exterminated. Mr. Wells's project would include getting food into this localized group, which would by agreement with the Government withdraw itself from all participation in Russian affairs until the era of reconstruction had definitely arrived.

Mr. Wells's view is that the country cannot ever be regenerated and governed without the class he hopes to save from starvation or execution. Communist regulations for a long time have made life in Russia practically impossible for the *intelligentsia*, and the death rate among them has been appreciably higher than with any other group of society. Maxim Gorki, on this very score of the treatment of the *intelligentsia*, recently definitely broke with terrorist Communism.

THE faculty of the Tokio Commercial University is considering the proposal for exchanging professors with the important universities of America and European countries. At a meeting held on December 5 the plan was discussed in detail and, according to the "Jiji," the university authorities will decide to make a start by inviting some German scholar to come and give lectures.

STEAMSHIP companies in Yokohama have been notified that a British *visé* is not necessary on passports of passengers for Canadian ports, the Canadian immigration authorities preferring to deal with each case on its own merits. The Canadian government has also given notice that citizens of enemy countries during the war are denied entry to Canada. Exception is made in the case of citizens of countries which have declared their independence from former enemy countries and have formed a recognized government.

duced to five per thousand annually.

"While in the Canal Zone, Gorgas visited Guayaquil and mapped out a plan to rid that city, long known as the 'pesthole of the Pacific,' from the yellow fever scourge, and his plan was in process of execution when the war began."—*"American Review of Reviews."*

THE PARAVANE

Admiral's "Inspiration from Heaven"

The mine destruction invention known as the paravane, used in the Navy and Mercantile Marine during the war, formed the basis of claims before the Royal Commission on Awards to Inventors, presided over by Mr. Justice Sargent. The claimants were Admiral Villiers, Mr. Teasdale Buckell, Captain Osborne, Commander Burney, Mr. W. G. Moore, Mr. C. W. Kay, and Dr. Haigh.

The Attorney-General (Sir Gordon Hewart, K.C.), who appeared for the Crown, said the claims were in connexion with certain services rendered in the development of the particular kind of bow mine defences for vessels at sea known as paravanes. The general scheme of that system was that, instead of the method of freeing ships from the menace of mine-fields by means of sweeping operations that were conducted by special vessels, each ship should carry her own mine defences. Sir Gordon mentioned that mine-sweepers were successful up to the Armistice in getting out of the way some 13,000 mines, and since that date they had accounted for 23,000 mines. With regard to the paravane, the figures in connexion with merchantmen were not available.

HOW IT WORKS.

So far as the task of protecting the individual vessels against mines was concerned there were two main methods. One was the method of collection, abandoned as dangerous, and the other was the method of deflexion, with which the paravane was concerned. This method involved the attachment to the bows of a ship upon either side of her of a wire rope intended to be towed in a direction at once outward and downward, so as to maintain a cutting device at a depth of not less than the depth of the draught of the vessel. The successful system which had emerged, and formed the main topic of inquiry, consisted in this, that the position of the wires and the cutters was maintained by the use of a towed submerged object, now called the paravane.

Dealing with the claimants, the Attorney-General said Admiral Villiers at the outbreak of the war was captain of destroyers at Sheerness. Mr. Teasdale Buckell was in the Paymasters' Branch, and Captain Osborne was, at the outbreak of war, Commander on the *Colossus*. Commander Burney at the outbreak of war, was a lieutenant in command of the destroyer *Velez*, stationed at Portsmouth, where he conducted many experiments, and upon the adoption of the paravane he was placed in charge of a large ship provided for perfecting the system. All the claimants had received a certain amount of remuneration, and Commander Burney had received £300,000 from Messrs. Vickers.

Ocean Ports for Inland States on the Lakes

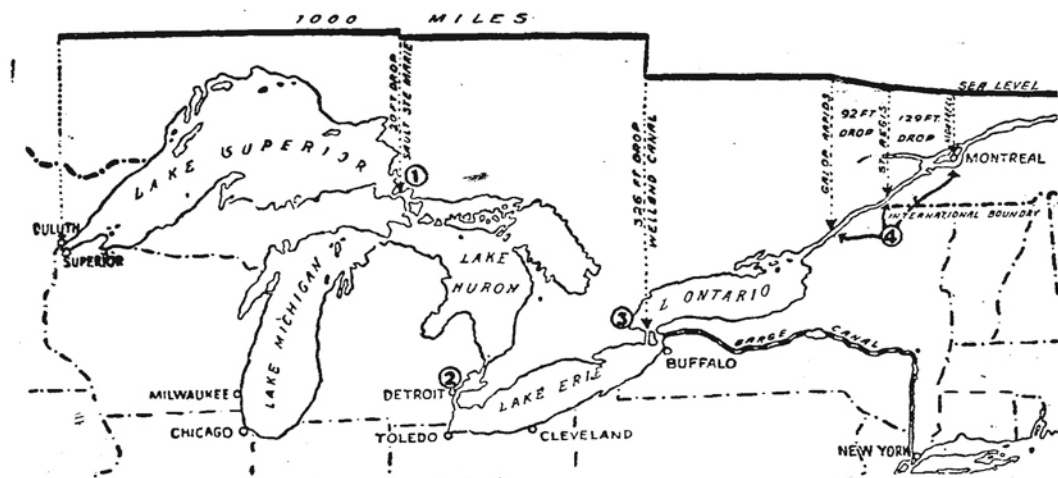
The Most Promising Project since the Panama Canal

A roseate picture of an "American Mediterranean" open to the commerce of all the world is painted by supporters of the project to construct a deep-water route from the Atlantic seaboard to the Great Lakes, via the St. Lawrence River. This plan, it is claimed, would make ports on the Great Lakes essentially ocean ports. The picture is further enhanced by the report of engineers that the proposed waterway would release for manufacturing 4,000,000 horsepower to contiguous territory in the United States and Canada. An international joint commission is now conducting hearings on the cost and feasibility of the plan. Briefly put, the scheme contemplates linking the Great Lakes with the Atlantic Ocean by way of the new Welland Canal, which connects Lake Erie with Lake Ontario and the St. Lawrence River. From the foot of Lake Ontario to tidewater, at or near Montreal, is 181 miles by the St. Lawrence River, 131 of which form international boundary as far as St. Regis. Of the total distance it is estimated that 135 miles are nearly all navigable for oceangoing steamships. This leaves 46 miles to be improved, a distance approximately equal to the length of the Panama Canal. There are many rapids in the St. Lawrence River, which falls 91 feet in 65 miles of the international section, of which 48 feet is in 12 miles; and which 129 feet is in two stretches of 14 and 8½ miles each. These

rapids, promoters of the project presume, would be drowned out by two dams, converting the river into a series of lakes. The cost of the improvement has been estimated at from \$250,000,000 to \$500,000,000, which would be shared by the two governments. The lesser figure is divided at \$100,000,000 for the international section, between Lake Ontario and St. Regis, and \$150,000,000 from there to Montreal. In the St. Lawrence River between Lake Ontario and Montreal engineers report that there is available 4,000,000 horsepower. Half of this, equal to three Niagaras, is in the international section, and would be divided between the two governments. The project, it is claimed, would open the ports on the Great Lakes to a sea-borne commerce exceeding 100,000,000 tons a year. It is estimated by supporters of the scheme that a saving of five cents a bushel on wheat would result, and as much perhaps on other bulk exports. As it is now, these freights, in taking the water-route through the Lakes to the Atlantic, must break bulk at Buffalo and at New York for transshipment.

Prominent among those supporting the project are Admiral Benson, chairman of the United States Shipping Board; Herbert Hoover, former Food Administrator; William C. Redfield, former Secretary of Commerce; Secretary Daniels of the Navy, and Franklin K. Lane, ex-Secretary of the Interior.

"Not since Theodore Roosevelt put his firm hand to the task of constructing a canal across the Isthmus of Panama has the United States confronted a programme as potent in promise for the nation at large as the Great Lakes waterway, now so definitely taking form," says the "Grand Rapid Herald" approvingly for Michigan. Viewing it from every angle, the "Indianapolis Star" thinks that this international project "should be carried to completion without undue delay. Both Canada and the United States are suffering from the lack of transportation facilities and their industries demand the vast electrical energy which would be obtained, for the proposed waterway would involve the generation of almost unlimited hydroelectric power." The plan "needs no argument favourable to its encouragement and development," declares the "Cincinnati Enquirer," and adds that "indirectly, such a transcontinental waterway would aid all those others contemplated by the States to link ocean and Middle West and South and Southwest together." Railroad congestion would be relieved, and "it could never happen, as it has happened this year, that the farmers of Kansas would be unable to move their new crops of wheat. The inland waterways questions with which American statesmanship has had to deal."—"The Literary Digest."



AN AMERICAN MEDITERRANEAN

1. Soo Canal, connecting Lake Superior and Lake Huron, completed at cost of \$27,000,000. 2. Deepening St. Clair Flats and Detroit River, connecting Lake Huron and Lake Erie, completed at cost of \$16,000,000. 3. Welland Canal, connecting Lake Erie and Lake Ontario, and avoiding Niagara Falls, soon to be completed at cost of \$65,000,000. 4. Proposed improvements in St. Lawrence to complete the shipway to the ocean: distance 181 miles, 113 international boundary, rest in Canadian territory; cost estimated at \$200,000,000 to \$250,000,000. Chief problem here about 40 miles of rapids.

TOKIO, Dec. 10.—Viscount Shibusaawa and other leaders are selecting a committee of 10 members to ask the Premier, Mr. Hara, to use his influence to persuade Baron Goto to accept the mayoralty of Tokio.—Reuter.

PARIS, Dec. 12.—The Danish sovereigns left Paris for Rome last evening. They travelled in a special train sent by the King of Italy which was decorated with Danish and Italian flags.—French Wireless.

PARIS, Dec. 12.—The executive committee of the Carnegie Foundation for Peace has decided to devote the sum of \$200,000 to the establishment of a library of 350,000 volumes at Reims.—French Wireless.

THE POLICY OF REPRISALS

America's Example in 1864

Sinn Fein and Irish-Americans are filling the newspapers of the United States with lying accounts of the conduct of British soldiers and loyal constables in Ireland. For party purposes, a great many American newspapers are instilling into the minds of their readers hatred of England. The Democratic candidate for the Presidency has declared that he is in favour of the independence of Ireland, and of the interference of the League of Nations with the domestic concerns of this country.

America at one time had a rebellion of her own. One section of the States wanted to separate itself from the other section. As in Ireland, the rebels raised an army and set up a government of their own. The Federal authorities accepted the challenge, for it saw the danger and was determined to prevent it.

The American Separatists, like the Irish rebels, went in for guerrilla warfare; they also wanted liberty to trade. How did the Federal military authorities deal with their opponents?

Here is an extract from "Annals of Our Time," under date August 30, 1864. It is a copy of a proclamation by the Federal General, Paine, commanding in Western Kentucky, says a home paper:

The first and great commandment is, that all you disloyal, rebellious people shall not circulate one dollar of capital in all this land. Not a dollar, no debt or bill of exchange can be paid or made without my signature, and I pledge you I will not approve any money transactions of a disloyal man. All his capital, all his money, every cent of it, shall be placed at the disposal of the Government. I will teach you that, having encouraged this rebellion, having comforted and aided your country's enemies, you must—ay, shall—reap a traitor's reward. Talk about your rights! Why, you have no rights to talk about. A loyal citizen is the only one left with rights at this time. And yet you come to me asking for a banking privilege. Great God! the devil might as well ask the Almighty for a front seat in Heaven. No; if in your prosperity you have despised this great and good Government, you may soon have the privilege to love it in your adversity. Not only this, but you ought—ay, you must fight for this Government.

"The second commandment is, that all you notorious rebels get out of your houses and leave my district, so that Union men and women may come here to help me to redeem this country. What do I care about your tobacco interest, the market value of your niggers or cotton? I shall shoot every guerilla taken in my district; and if your Southern brethren retaliate by shooting a Federal soldier, I will walk out five of your rich bankers, brokers, and

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IOWA W. S. Kenyon, R. † A. B. Cummins, R.*			

*Re-elected yesterday.

†Continuing in office.

§Elected yesterday.

§Elected yesterday for unexpired term.

RECAPITULATION—SENATE.

Present Senate—66th Congress.	
Republicans	48
Democrats	47
Republican (Prog.)	1
Total	96

The New Senate—67th Congress.

	Dem.	Rep.	Total.
Holdover until 1923	16	16	32
Holdover until 1925	12	18	30
Elected yesterday	14	19	34
Totals	42	53	96
Necessary for majority		49	
Republican majority		12	

—"New York Times."

cotton men, and make you kneel down and shoot them. I will do it, so help me God! You men of such large influence will be held responsible for the peace of this district. If a Union man is murdered by these guerillas here, the same fate awaits five of you gentlemen, I have sworn it, and it shall be done. I am going to manage this district so that when I am done with it men and women who remain can come together in the name of the Lord and say, "We belong to the United States."

DEATH OF GENERAL LEMAN

General Leman, the defender of Liège, died at Liège on October 17 from pneumonia.

General Leman, whose name will always be associated with the gallant defence of the Liège forts against the first terrific onslaught of the German Army in 1914, was born at the town of his heroic fight on January 8, 1851. He was Military Governor there when war broke out. His action is an illustration

of the truth that circumstances often create the man. General Leman was an Engineer officer, and up to the outbreak of the Great War had been known more for his work as a mathematician than as a soldier. Although taken by surprise on the quick march of events, and the rapidity of the German advance, General Leman took prompt measures to do the best he could in a very difficult situation. The Liège forts had been planned for a garrison of 30,000 men, but there were only 20,000 available at the moment of attack.

The story of the heroic defence against heavy odds, and the subsequent capture of the forts, is still fresh in the public mind, as also are the universally acknowledged consequences of the hold-up of the German hordes, namely the salvation of Paris and perhaps the Allied cause.

General Leman's health broke down whilst a prisoner in Germany, and he was afterwards allowed to go to Switzerland. He persistently refused to give his parole not to fight against Germany if released. King Albert conferred the title of Count on General Leman on July 21 last year.

THE CAPTURED FLAGS OF FRANCE

More German Bad Faith

Another characteristic instance of German bad faith was announced recently which helps to explain why the French are much less anxious than their British neighbours to resume friendly relations with brother Boche, the Paris correspondent of the "Morning Post" wrote on October 21. Under the stipulations of the Peace Treaty the whole of the French regimental flags captured by the Prussians during the war of 1870 and since displayed as trophies in the arsenal at Berlin were to be given back to France.

It was intended that these flags should figure in a solemn *cortège* which was to be organized on November 11 for the translation of the heart of Gambetta to the Panthéon on the occasion of the celebration of the Jubilee of the Third Republic. In a letter to a Deputy, reproduced in recent papers, the Premier, M. Georges Leygues, stated that a Mission had been sent to Berlin to identify the flags, and bring them back to Paris in time for the ceremony.

A Berlin telegram to "Le Journal" recently stated that when the French delegates went to interview the German authorities at the arsenal they were offered a few old French helmets and rifles, but were told that it was impossible to hand over the flag as they had all been burnt last year as a sacrifice offered up at the foot of the monument of Frederick the Great. It remains to be decided what form the reparation will take that will undoubtedly be demanded by the French Government to atone not only for the destruction of the trophies but also for the deliberately insulting manner in which the facts have been revealed.

SKELETONS DISCOVERED IN OREGON

A New Archaeological Wonder

The Dalles, Oreg., Nov. 7.—What may prove to be the greatest archaeological discovery ever made in the Northwest was partly uncovered by scrapers of the road crews working on the Columbia River highway two miles east of Big Eddy, and about six miles from The Dalles.

Scores of graves and skeletons were found, together with ruins of buildings, body ornaments, cooking implements and many other relics of a civilization that is believed to have preceded the Indians, according to news reaching here to-day.

Celilo Indians, richest in lore and traditions of any of the Indians living in the vicinity of The Dalles, knew nothing about

the existence of this burial ground and are unable to read any of the numerous heliographs appearing on the relics.

The discovery was made as scrapers plowed through what is apparently a mixture of red sand and wood ash. There is nothing to indicate that the settlement was overwhelmed with a volcanic disaster, but it appears that the skeletons are those of victims of a fire.

More than a dozen skeletons were unearthed. They were so old that they crumbled to dust upon being touched. Near the bodies were found ornaments of pure copper, beaten out with hammers. There is no copper around The Dalles, and the Celilo Indians believe it was brought down the river from Idaho. Beautifully decorated vases, many stone hammers and stone mortars and pestles are being uncovered.—"Washington Post."

CARIBOU RUN IN ALASKA

Fairbanks Gets Its Winter Meat Supply

Sept. 23.—The unprecedented run of caribou in the vicinity of the creeks adjacent to Fairbanks is still on. From accounts of recent arrivals from the upper town, hunters are leaving town in autos, wagons, afoot daily, invariably returning with the limit bag. Almost every home in Fairbanks is now said to be well stocked with fresh meat for use during the coming winter.

Thousands of the animals are moving along in a very leisurely manner, affording an easy chance for even the poorest shot to get all the meat he may need. The run covers a large territory extending from near Fox to the south bank of the Chatanika river. Besides the hunters of the town, those who are interested only in viewing this rare sight are out in force, and Fairbanks presents a deserted appearance of a Sunday morning, the congregations at the morning services in the various churches being said to be composed of just a handful of worshippers.

No accurate estimate of the number of animals in the "run" can, of course, be made, but even to the most casual observer it must be apparent that it is composed of a great many thousand caribou. Half a million animals, it is thought by some, would be a conservative estimate.

Many visitors from Nenana and other places have been attracted by the fame of the "run" and have had an opportunity to see groups of the animals at various points along the railroad.

Monday's train to Chatanika had to stop for a while to let a band of caribou get across the track a short distance beyond Gilmore, and some of the passengers bagged five of them ere they could away to the safety of the timber above the track.—"Nenana Daily News."

WOMAN'S VOTE IN NEW YORK CITY

Babies Tended by Girl Scouts

Nov. 3.—The largest woman's vote in the history of New York City was cast yesterday. Women showed an intense interest in the Presidential election.

No exact count of the woman's vote was made, but Miss Helen Varick Boswell, chairman of the New York County Women's Republican Committee, estimated that more than one-third of the total city vote was cast by women. There are 1,387,835 registered voters in the city, Miss Boswell said, and the woman's vote probably aggregated more than 400,000.

"In many election districts in the better residential sections, the woman's vote equals that of the men," she said, "and in some districts there are more women than men. This is offset, however, by the fact that many women, especially of foreign birth, do not vote."

The women were blamed by Mayor Hylan for his failure to vote before going to the City Hall. So many thrifty Brooklyn housewives on their way to market were lined up at the Mayor's polling place that Hizzoner had to stand in line 25 minutes, after which he lost patience and gave it up, promising his Democratic captain, however, that he would return.

The women bore the annoyance of standing in line for long periods with amused fortitude. The prudent had provided themselves with camp stools and reading matter. Many a school teacher corrected her papers and many a housewife flashed an embroidery needle while awaiting her turn.

Girl Scouts were active at many polling places, assisting the mothers by holding the babies. All Scouts were guaranteed baby experts.

H.I.H. Sub-Lieutenant Prince Yamashina will be admitted into the Yokosuka Naval Aviation Corps where he will undergo the necessary training as a flying officer together with other students. His Highness is the first Imperial Prince in Japan to become an aviation officer.

The Department of Foreign Affairs in Tokio has issued a circular to the local Water Police and the Japanese shipping firms and agents requesting them to pay keener attention to attempts on the part of Japanese to stowaway for the purpose of entering America. It is stated that the smuggling of Japanese emigrants to America on certain Japanese liners has to some extent been instrumental in arousing anti-Japanese feeling on the Pacific Coast.—A popular stowaway would be a *rara avis* anywhere.

MAIL NOTICES

Next Mail in

Per O.S.K.S. Alaska Maru	...Dec. 19
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FOR JAPAN, CANADA, U.S.A. & EUROPE:

Per R.M.S. Empress of Russia	Dec. 19
Per T.K.K.S. Korea Maru	... " 20
Per P.M.S. Venezuela	... " 29

PASSENGERS

INWARD

Per str. Chikugo Maru, December 8. From Kobe, Lieut. and Mrs. W. C. H. Knight, Mr. and Mrs. A. Rocha, Mr. T. Vasily.

Per str. Hsin Ningshao, December 10. From Ningpo. Mr. Vernele.

Per str. Hsin Peking, December 10. From Ningpo. Mrs. Watson, Mr. Dowding, Mr. Christian, Mr. Spadding.

Per str. Hsinchi, December 10. From Foochow. Mr. and Miss Thom, Mr. Shakan.

Per P. & O. S. Sicilia, December 10. From London. Mr. R. C. Edwards, Mrs. J. R. Evans, Messrs. R. M. R. Bairnsfather, A. S. Baines, D. H. Hotherstone, J. T. Scarlet, H. Horison, M. Keano, J. S. Mudford, L. F. Griffiths, J. A. L. Simmons, T. Kemp, L. Woodcock, Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Kirkhope, Mr. J. W. McKay, Lt. Col. and Mrs. Orpen. Palmer and child, Mr. and Mr. J. Bedford and child, Mr. J. Renwick, Mr. and Mrs. J. Hicks, Mrs. Nye and 2 children, Miss Murray, Mrs. F. O. Peppercorn, Mrs. Wright and 2 children, Messrs. D. Gennarie, P. Keene, A. O'Dwyer, J. McCabe, Mr. and Mrs. H. D. Rodger, Mrs. and Miss D. Graham, Mrs. Cieh and infant, Mr. R. Bain, Mrs. Philippo, Mr. B. M. Murray, Dr. and Mrs. Skinner, child and governess, Messrs. D. J. Hooper, A. D. Holder, J. B. T. A. A-Bear, Wooley, Rev. and Mrs. Hind, Mr. and Mrs. Kozeahver and infant. From Penang. Mr. R. C. Philippo. From Singapore. Mr. and Mrs. Homersham and Mr. A. Rae. From Hongkong. Mr. and Mrs. Hartigan and infant, Mr. P. H. Nye, Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Runkin and infant, Miss M. Richards, Miss A. B. Taylor, Mr. B. E. Hall, Mr. and Mrs. R. Horne, Messrs. F. H. Shivji, J. H. Gray, W. L. Crowe and M. Kimato.

Per str. Takishima Maru, December 10. From Kobe. Mr. C. C. Berglund, Mr. J. H. Rowe, Mr. L. Kompanin, Mr. A. Hottler, Mr. F. Engel, Mr. L. P. H. Hake, Mr. J. V. Speck, Mr. J. G. Wiedeshof, Mr. R. Friedrich, Mrs. M. Friedrich, Mr. H. Krabble, Mr. W. Kuhn, Mr. H. Kallen.

Per str. Luenho, December 11. From Hankow. Mrs. Pitcairn and 2 children, Miss Reid and Lieut.-Comm. A. T. Haas.

Per str. Kiangteen, December 11. From Ningpo. Miss Cressey, Dr. Betty and Mr. Draper.

Per str. Koonshing, December 11. From Tientsin. Mrs. J. D. Carnie, From Chefoo. Mr. and Mrs. Dunkerley and infant, Mr. P. Mitsuyoshi.

Per str. Kiangwah, December 11. From Hankow. Rev. Bryars.

Per str. Poyang, December 11. From Hankow. Messrs. Richardson, Peach, Bothwell, Ripley, Kimball and Shaw, Miss M. Shaw.

Per str. Chekiang, December 12. From Tientsin. Mr. Robotham.

Per str. Hsin Peking, December 12. From Ningpo. Messrs. L. C. Hylbert, J. W. O. Davidson, Richter, B. Papovetyky and V. J. Chaud.

Per str. Luenyi, December 12. From Hankow. Mr. and Mrs. Tower, Mrs. Washburn and 2 Sisters of Charity.

Per str. Hsinming, December 12. From Tientsin and Chefoo. Mrs. Baines.

Per str. Suiyang, December 12. From Hongkong.—Mrs. Blanchett, Miss E. H. Flabley, Mr. P. S. Oram.

Per str. Yamashiro Maru, December 12. From Moji and Kobe. Mr. and Mrs. G. Heusser, Miss E. O. Grant, Mr. R. Hallam, Mrs. C. N. Rolfe, Mr. A. M. Carlsino, Mr. C. Crow, Mr. E. Grossman, Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Bertlett, Mrs. D. J. Mackwasin.

Per str. Tungchow, December 13. From Tientsin. Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Morling and Mr. W. S. Leigh.

Per str. Sinkiang, December 13. From Hongkong.—Messrs. C. Hewitt and W. T. Pike.

Per str. Wuchang, December 13. From Hankow. Mr. L. W. Newby.

Per str. Ningshao, December 13. From Hankow. Mr. and Mrs. Wong Kwang, Mrs. C. H. Davis, Mr. and Mrs. Carrol, Mrs. S. Pertuman.

Per str. Kiangyu, December 14. From Hankow. Mr. A. H. Lewis and Mrs. S. Gulbe-Shran.

Per str. Chili, December 14. From Yokohama. Messrs. H. Easton, J. H. Black, C. Madoba, H. Perelmann. From Kobe. Messrs. Gibb, Luther, Mr. Scranton, Miss Messenger, Messrs. D. Peder, E. Peden and E. Johana.

Per str. Choysang, December 15. From Hongkong. Miss E. Maskalerko.

Per str. Hsin Peking, December 15. From Ningpo. Lady Clifton and Miss Macleod.

Per str. Kutwo, December 15. From Hankow. Mr. Seward, Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Chu, Mrs. Chu, Mr. and Mrs. Lawsell and child and Miss Edgar, From Kiukiang. Mr. E. Lawson Grey.

Per str. Kiangteen, December 16. From Ningpo. Mr. Sugg.

Per str. Iean, December 16. From Hongkong. Miss McCullough, Dr. C. Bennett, Mr. S. A. Konovaloff, Mr. S. H. Wood and Mr. Berry.

Per str. Tuckwo, December 16. From Kiukiang.—Mr. R. Bauld.

Per str. Ngankin, December 16. From Hankow. Mr. and Mrs. Gardner, Miss Lavers, Messrs. W. S. Saunderson, Bagger, Moule, Alies and Lawrie and Rev. Courton.

Per str. Katori Maru, December 16. From Japan. Rev. and Mrs. E. Roth, Misses B. E. Roth and A. F. Olsen, Mr. E. R. Crone, Mr. and Mrs. O. D. Walker, Misses J. C. and M. H. Walker, Mrs. M. C. Carleton, Misses A. Carleton, K. Kearns and E. F. Buckley, Mr. S. A. Tolles, Miss H. Bender, Mr. W. Douglas, Misses H. Ferris and J. M. Kerk, Capt. H. H. Burditt, Mrs. W. B. D. Goodfellow, Miss V. Goodfellow, Master D. Goodfellow, Mr. and Mrs. L. Stedman, Mrs. G. Wilson, Mrs. B. H. Brown, Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Gower, Misses B. M. Munro and V. Small, Mr. W. H. Cantwell, Mr. H. J. Gilbert, Mr. W. D. J. Preston, Mrs. D. Fennessy, Mr. and Mrs. H. O. Morgan, Mr. E. T. Timm, Major C. M. Manners, Miss V. Vantz, Mr. and Mrs. D. L. Smith, Miss R. P. Smith, Master E. S. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Hansen, Mr. E. G. Duront, Mr. J. Thomstroff, Mr. S. S. Nazar, Mr. J. P. Olsen, Mrs. S. Schoth, Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Himrod, Mr. L. Andersen, Mr. C. Eberhardt, Mr. S. J. Michael, Mr. S. Hart, Mr. H. O. Westlie, Mr. and Mrs. W. Olivecrona, Capt. N. F. Hjorth, Rev. and

Mrs. L. B. O'Neil, Mr. J. A. Flack, Mr. E. M. Wold, Mr. E. Dons, Mr. M. Benjamin, Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Brown, Mrs. N. Montgomery, Mr. F. Bustos, Misses H. M. Raymond and C. L. Mann, Dr. and Mrs. D. J. Prater, Mr. and Mrs. G. P. Bent, Miss B. Bent, Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Retter, Master C. E. Retter, Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Maier, Misses D. W. Maier, F. B. and L. R. Maier, Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Tice, Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Mader, Miss P. Mader, Mr. and Mrs. R. G. Ashton, Mr. and Mrs. G. E. Westcott, Miss R. M. Westcott, Mr. E. J. McCart, Mr. and Mrs. E. Cahtaneda, Mr. M. Garcia, Mr. O. S. Campos, Mr. V. C. Cavinta, Mr. and Mrs. F. O. Fuerholzer and 3 children.

OUTWARD

Per str. Hsin Peking, December 8.—For Ningpo.—Lady Clifton, Miss Macleod, Messrs. D. B. Christie and Fong.

Per str. Sunning, December 9.—For Hongkong.—Mrs. W. G. Ramsay and child and Mr. C. Manthien.

Per str. Shengkang, December 9.—For Hankow.—Mr. Mayes and 2 Franciscan Sisters.

Per str. Loongwo, December 10.—For Kiukiang.—Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Webster and 2 children. For Hankow.—Mr. and Mrs. S. H. Moore, Messrs. S. C. Wilson and A. M. Carnan.

Per str. Chianking, December 10.—For Amoy.—Misses Anderson, Nicholl and Keen.

Per str. Tatung, December 10.—For Hankow.—Messrs. E. G. Barrett and John Canavan. For Wuhu.—Mr. J. Macdonald.

Per str. Hsin Peking, December 10.—For Ningpo.—Captain Watson, Messrs. Davidson, Richter, B. P. Popovitzky and Chang.

Per str. Colombia, December 11. For Hongkong.—Messrs. I. T. Barr, G. G. Peters, Mr. and Mrs. C. T. Nelson, Mr. B. W. Cadwalader, Mr. and Mrs. G. F. Bartlett, Miss M. Dunlap, Mr. F. A. Diekoff. For Manila.—Miss H. Wright, Mrs. Wm. Abbot, Mrs. B. W. Cadwalader and daughter, Mrs. P. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. S. P. Carpenter, Mr. H. J. Eddo, Rev. J. M. Pendergast, Rev. E. P. Dutty, Mrs. R. Murphy and daughter, Mrs. T. J. Wolfe, Mrs. A. Preston, Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Ammer, and 2 children, Mr. and Mrs. Marshall and son, Mr. A. Humphries, Mr. and Mrs. R. A. McGrath, Mr. and Mrs. Gidiz and son, Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Hamme, Mr. W. J. Sawyer, Misses R. and L. E. Parsons, Mr. and Mrs. J. Sharkey, Messrs. C. de L. Nunes, G. Yamasaki, H. Green, Mrs. F. W. Foster, Misses Susan and Fannie Foster.

Per str. Chenan, December 11.—For Tsingtao.—Mrs. W. T. Alway.

Per str. Yingchow, December 11.—For Hongkong.—Mr. R. C. Morton, Captain A. Martin, Messrs. J. Barr, H. Sling and Hyndman. For Swatow.—Mr. and Mrs. Chappins.

Per str. Hsin Peking, December 13.—For Ningpo. Mr. A. M. Draper and Mrs. Watson.

Per str. Agapenor, December 13.—For London.—Mr. and Mrs. T. F. Livingston.

Per str. Luenho, December 13.—For Kiukiang.—Mr. D. H. Motherson. For Hankow. Mr. and Mrs. Kirkhope.

Per str. Szechuen, December 13.—For Hongkong.—Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Harris, Mr. R. C. Elliot, Capt. W. E. Sherman and Mr. J. H. Pattison.

Per str. Luenho, December 13.—For Hankow.—Mrs. Lowndes and Mr. R. Gregg.

Per str. Suiwo, December 14.—For Hankow.—Messrs. P. Heath, D. Bieren de Haan, Lt.-Com. F. D. Manoch.

Per str. Yamashiro Maru, December 14.—For Kobe.—Lt. Barry, Lt. C. Haas, Mr. J. H. Rowe, Mr. R. Fuhrmann, Mr. and Mrs. M. H. Levin, Mrs. Caldwell and 2 children, Mr. Merceki, Comm. Caldwell, Mr. S. E. Rowe and Mr. R. Balhamann.

Per str. Poyang, December 13.—For Hankow.—Mr. and Mrs. S. H. Moore and Mr. E. G. Byrre.

Per str. Luenyi, December 14.—For Hankow.—Mr. and Mrs. Blair and 2 children, Mr. and Mrs. S. Luker, Mrs. Walter, Mrs. Beddow and 2 children, For Nanking and Hankow.—Mr. Moore.

Per str. Hsin Peking, December 15.—For Ningpo.—Miss Cressy.

Per P. & O. Devanha, December 15.—For London.—Mr. and Mrs. N. F. Miller and 2 children, Mr. Miller, Jr., Mrs. J. Gray and 2 children, Mr. and Mrs. A. H. H. Rees and infant, Mrs. A. Meisner, Messrs. Avery, R. J. Goodyear, Cecil Ansell and Austin, For Marseilles.—Mr. L. D. Abraham, Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Lund, Mr. and Mrs. K. Logan, Capt. A. Tucker, Mr. J. Work, Capt. J. F. Peacock, Mr. H. Gifford, Mr. and Mrs. S. Polkinghorn and 2 children, Rev. and Mrs. Slater, Mrs. A. Green, Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Harker and 2 children, Mr. and Mrs. W. Van Giessendau. For Port Said.—Abbot Seraphim, Messrs. S. Guevasheff, M. Kannounikoff and A. P. Kulikoff. For Colombo.—Messrs. G. S. Mahomed and E. D. Damri, Mrs. B. and Miss E. S. Beal. For Singapore.—Mr. and Mrs. Cochrane, Mr. A. H. Hampton, Mr. and Mrs. Spiers, Mr. and Mrs. Crosthwaite, Mr. Auermaa, Mr. and Mrs. Archer, Mr. R. E. Mull, Mr. G. G. Walker, Mr. E. G. Johnstone and Mr. Leslie. For Hongkong.—Mr. G. H. Brooke, Mr. A. E. R. James, Mrs. and Miss Stone, Mrs. P. N. Forum and child, Mr. and Mrs. C. S. Gardner, Messrs. D. E. and C. S. Gardner, C. R. Erdman, N. G. Maitland, R. Macdonald Sutton, Mr. and Mrs. Burrows, Mr. W. N. Engstrom, Miss C. M. Ferguson, Mr. and Mrs. Almazoff, Messrs. Bume and F. Bruh, Mr. and Mrs. French.

Per str. Chili, December 15.—For Marseilles.—Commander G. Mulock, Mr. and Mrs. Waidtlow, Mr. G. Binet, Mr. and Mrs. H. F. Edward, Messrs. Robbe and C. Winter, Mr. and Mrs. R. S. Davis and child, Mr. Mrs. J. Jorgensen, Capt. J. C. Pair, Mr. I. Nowakowski, Misses J. Nowakowski, S. and A. Wojciechowska, Messrs. du Rocher and W. H. Coombs, Revs. Pères F. Lesuey and E. Crouille, Comm. T. T. Laurens, Mr. and Mrs. Carrère and child, Messrs. A. Nouvel, J. Durieux, M. Trolley and J. Guivarch, Misses Bellouin and A. Jolas, Messrs. P. de Grandchamp, J. Gamon, E. Baiger, D. Theron, C. Chimot, A. Gros, G. Dubose, H. Lafon, A. Massot, E. Orget, R. Jouanne, A. Agbirla, J. Labous, J. Le Gac, E. Ropers, H. Derrin, A. Assie, M. Bouvin, J. Marchadour, R. Gadrat, R. Germeaux, A. Le Touze, J. Nowakowski and K. Esrinasso. For Port Said.—Mr. P. M. Delaitre. For Singapore.—Mrs. D. M. Peyton Griffin, Mr. Phil. Carlton, Mr. and Mrs. Russell, Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Wells, Mr. and Mrs. R. P. Sweeney, Miss E. J. Breiha, Messrs. V. A. Dodge and E. Flood, Mr. and Mrs. Lawson, Mr. and Mrs. Twiss, Mrs. and Miss Burton, Misses Johnston and Gerald, Messrs. Keir, Thompson, Woods, Baverstock, Stephens and Yaxmen, Capt. and Mrs. Kracheninikoff. For Saigon.—Messrs. W. R. Elliston, W. Terletsky, E. Yutal, K. Labat, G. Lehtmetz, W. Siiman, P. Semmicks, J. Blusig, Kurzig, D. Wiipom, O. Rutson, Y. Hellstrom, N. Pruhl, Jobabaitchuk and L. Kreis. For Hongkong.—Dr. Legendre and Mr. C. E. Richardson, Rev. Père Baynaud.

Per str. Kwellin, December 16.—For Chefoo.—Miss Stevens and Mr. W. Busse.

Per str. Pyrrhus, December 16.—For London.—Mr. L. N. Newby, Mr. A. H. Lewis, Mr. and Mrs. G. Manthei and son, Mrs. A. Barton and daughter, Mrs. Youngson, Mrs. D. D. Cradock and 2 children, Mr. and Mrs. Dunkerley and infant, Mrs. E. H. Simons and 2 children, Captain A. S. Woodgett, Mr. J. McKeller Young, Mrs. and Miss H. Holgate, Mr. and Mrs. Wivell, Mr. H. E.

Olser, Mrs. D. Gow and infant, Captain and Mrs. R. D. Bennett, Mr. and Mrs. Roseman, Rev. and Mrs. G. D. Thomser and family, Mr. and Mrs. E. McDowell, Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Nicoll, Mr. H. G. Washbrook and Mr. O'Connor. For Port Said.—Mr. and Mrs. A. Hassam. For Singapore.—Mr. J. S. Harvie. For Hongkong.—Miss R. Gardner.

Per str. Katori Maru, December 17.—For Hongkong.—Mr. T. R. Percy, Dr. W. T. Findley, Mrs. E. E. Edwards, Mrs. S. Dietrich, Mr. J. H. Hull, Mr. J. Dalton, Mr. and Mrs. E. O. Little, Mr. and Mrs. E. N. Penn, Miss M. N. Duke, Miss E. Wyld, Mrs. H. H. Muir, Mr. and Mrs. A. Rocha, Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Jeffery and child, Mr. T. H. Barnes, Mr. C. E. Koehler, Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Silva and 3 children, Mrs. Fertick, Mr. Happey, Mrs. J. J. Robson, Mr. W. G. Saunder, Mr. R. A. May, Mr. Johnstone, Mr. and Mrs. R. Powell and Miss Shanks.

BIRTHS

AITKENHEAD.—On December 15, 1920, at the Victoria Nursing Home, Shanghai, to Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Aitkenhead, a daughter.

BLACK.—On December 9, 1920, at Nanking, to Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Black, a daughter.

BOLITHO.—(By cable from Bristol). Mr. and Mrs. E. F. Bolitho, a son.

BRITTO.—On December 12, 1920, at No. 7 Park Lane, Shanghai, to Mr. and Mrs. J. M. M. Britto, a son.

BROWN.—On December 15, 1920, at the Victoria Nursing Home, Shanghai, to Mr. and Mrs. T. Neville Brown, a son.

COHEN.—On Monday afternoon, the 13th instant, at the Victoria Nursing Home, Shanghai, to Mr. and Mrs. I. B. Cohen, of No. 10a Seward Road, a son. (Hongkong papers please copy)

HYND.—On December 14, 1920, at the Victoria Nursing Home, Shanghai, to Mr. and Mrs. E. M. Hynd, a daughter.

NELSON.—On December 16, 1920, at No. 344 Avenue Joffre, Shanghai, to Mr. and Mrs. J. Nelson, a son.

JACOB.—On December 15, 1920, at the Victoria Nursing Home, Shanghai, to Mr. and Mrs. J. I. Jacob, of No. 16 Quinsan Road, a son.

ROWETT JOHNS.—On December 13, 1920, at the Victoria Nursing Home, Shanghai, to Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Rowett Johns, a son.

WILKINSON.—On December 10, 1920, at Dr. Fearn's Sanatorium, Shanghai, to Mr. and Mrs. E. Wilkinson, a daughter.

MARRIAGES

ANDERSON — RADCLIFFE.—On December 10, 1920, at H.B.M. Consulate-General, Shanghai, by Sir Everard Fraser, K.C.M.G., Consul-General, and afterwards at Holy Trinity Cathedral by the Very Rev. Dean Symons, Thomas Reid Anderson, of Shanghai, to Madge Vipont, daughter of John Vipont Radcliffe of St. Michaels, Felixstowe.

CROSTHWAITH—SHERBINCE.

—On December 10, 1920, at H.B.M. Consulate-General, Shanghai, and afterwards at the Holy Trinity Cathedral, by the Rev. Dean Symons, second daughter of Captain and Mrs. Sherbince to Tommy, son of Mr. and Mrs. Crosthwaith, of Glasgow. Manila papers please copy.

DEATHS

GROVE.—On December 16, 1920, at No. 139 Haining Road, Shanghai, Alice Grove (mother of G. R. Grove) aged 57 years.

SOUZA.—On December 12, 1920, at the General Hospital, Shanghai, Mancio (Mancinho) Germano de Souza, aged 59 years.

UPCRAFT.—On Saturday morning, December 12, 1920, at the Red Cross Hospital, Shanghai, Mrs. Emma Inveen Upcraft, of the American Baptist Foreign Missionary Society, Chêngtu, Szechuan.

IN MEMORIAM

In memory of our dear father, General William Mesny, who passed away at Hankow on December 11, 1919, in his 78th year.

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SICAWAI METEOROLOGICAL REPORT

Day of Month	Barometer.		Wind.		Hygrometer 9 a.m.		Thermometer in Shade		Weather condition
	9 A.M.	Attached Therm.	Direction 9 a.m.	Force (1-12)	Dry	Wet	Max.	Min.	
Dec. 10	30.37	52.2	ESE	1	51.8	50.2	53.8	45.2	O. M.
" 11	30.34	52.0	NW by W	2	44.1	43.0	49.3	42.6	O. B.
" 12	30.35	52.5	NNE	2	52.7	48.3	59.0	43.7	B.
" 13	30.50	53.6	NW	2	47.0	42.8	52.3	39.8	C.
" 14	30.54	51.3	NW	2	38.3	33.8	46.6	28.9	B. C.
" 15	30.50	50.5	N	1	44.1	40.5	59.9	27.9	B.
" 16	30.44	50.5	ESE	1	51.6	49.3	59.9	41.0	O. M.

B—blue sky D—drizzle H—hail M—misty (hazy) R—rain T—thunder
 C—clouds F—fog L—lightning O—overcast (dull) S—snow Z—calm

SHANGHAI THERMOMETER READINGS FOR THE WEEK

In the open air in a shaded situation in the Foreign Settlement

Date	Thermometer (Fahr.)				Rainfall	
	Minimum		Maximum		Inches	
	1920	1919	1920	1919	1920	1919
Dec. 10	48.0	38.2	54.0	54.5	0.21	Nil.
" 11	43.0	45.4	48.8	51.2	0.30	0.21
" 12	45.0	46.0	59.2	50.0	0.05	0.35
" 13	37.0	39.0	58.8	51.6	Nil.	0.02
" 14	31.0	32.0	47.0	46.0	Nil.	Nil.
" 15	33.2	29.0	56.0	45.0	Nil.	Nil.
" 16	47.2	27.0	57.0	49.2	0.08	Nil.

There's a Sure Way to Lasting Relief

IN CASE OF Eczema, Blisters, Pimples, Boils, Eruptions, Bad Legs, Abscesses, Ulcers, Piles, Glandular Swellings, Rheumatism, Gout, you should realise that lotions, ointments, etc., can only give temporary benefit—to be sure of complete and lasting relief you MUST thoroughly cleanse the blood of the poisonous waste matter, the one cause of all such troubles—Clarke's Blood Mixture contains ingredients which quickly overcome and expel the impurities, that's why so many lasting cures stand to its credit. Pleasant to take and free from anything injurious.

**Clarke's
Blood
Mixture**

Sold by all
Chemists &
Druggists
Refuse all
Substitutes.

"Everybody's
Blood Purifier"

UNDER THE EVENING LAMP



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AND

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ban ez, Vicente Blasco—The Cabin \$1.50
 Turgenev, Ivan—Smoke 1.50
 A Modern Book of Criticisms 1.50
 Wilde, Oscar—An Ideal Husband 1.50
 Pater, Walter—The Renaissance... .. 1.50
 Latzko, Andreas—Men in War 1.50
 The Maxims of Noah, G. Burgess 1.50
 The One Before, Barry Pain 1.00
 Observations of Henry, J. K. Jerome 1.00
 Three Men in a Boat, J. K. Jerome 1.00

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 Cap'n Abe, Storekeeper, A. J. Cooper 1.80
 The Restless Sex, Chamber 1.80
 The Amateur Gentleman, J. Farnol 1.80
 The Broad Highway, J. Farnol 1.00
 The Haunted Bookshop, C. Morley 3.80
 Bergengren: The Perfect Gentleman 2.00
 Lindsay: Mother Stories 2.00
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30 NORTH SZECHUEN ROAD

SHANGHAI

profits by the addition of 400,000 fully paid shares to be issued *pro rata* to the shareholders at the rate of two new shares in respect of every five shares held. In order to provide above and in view of the large capital expenditure which will be required for the development of the business of the Kailan Mining Administration and an Iron Works scheme the Directors further propose to increase the capital to £2,000,000 of which £600,000 shares will be available for future issue as and when required. The necessary resolution will be submitted to the annual meeting to be held on the 16th instant and at an extraordinary general meeting to be held on January 4, 1921.

Brunner, Mond & Co., Ltd.

We note that Messrs. Brunner, Mond & Co. (China), Ltd., has recently been registered at Shanghai as a private Company under the Hongkong Ordinances. The Company has been formed to take over as a going concern the business hitherto carried on in China by Messrs. Brunner, Mond & Co., Ltd., of England. The normal capital of the Company is Tls. 2,000,000, divided into 20,000 fully paid up shares of Tls. 100 each.

The Company is sole agent for a number of well-known chemical firms and is negotiating for further agencies from Home manufacturers of heavy chemicals with a view to placing the Company in a pre-eminent position for the supply of these products in China.

Kailan Coal

The total output of the Kailan Mining Administration's mines for the week ending December 9 amounted to 90,197 tons and the sales during the same period to 83,128 tons.

Fu Chung Coal

The general managers of the Fu Chung Corporation advise us that the sales of their coal (Honan anthracite) for the month of November last amounted to 118,250 tons.

New Metals in Ship Propulsion

A very significant hint was thrown out by the chairman of the Institute of Metals at a recent convention of that body. He pointed out that while the internal combustion engines used to drive merchant ships contained only 3 per cent. of metals other than iron and steel, the driving equipment of the latest British submarines (oil engines, steam turbines, and electrical machinery combined) showed a proportion as high as 37 per cent. Therefore, the marine engineer would find in naval practice suggestions for increasing power and reducing weight by using some of the wonderfully strong yet light alloys which British metallurgists had developed.

Rubber Prices

Messrs. J. A. Wattie & Co. have received the following telegram from Messrs. Barker & Co., London, dated December 15:—

Average spot price standard quality ribbed smoked sheet 11d.

Average spot price standard quality first crepe 1s.

Market depressed.

The following telegram has been received by Messrs. R. N. Truman & Co. from their agents in connexion with the rubber auctions at Singapore on December 15:—

Average price realized:—

No. 1 smoked sheet \$0.35 per lb., equivalent to 9½d. ex warehouse Singapore.

No. 1 crepe \$0.36 per lb., equivalent to 10d. ex warehouse Singapore.

Poor demand. Offered 740 tons; sold 425 tons.

LAW REPORTS

H. M. SUPREME COURT

Shanghai, Dec. 13.

Before His Honour Judge SKINNER TURNER.

Chen Sih-che and Koh Ching-ming
v. **Davies & Brooke and J. A. Hayes.**

Plaintiffs' claim is for (1) a declaration that the plaintiff Chen Sih-che is beneficially entitled to a two-fifths part of the area of B.C. lot No. 4405 and is further beneficially entitled to a one fifth part of the aggregate areas of B.C. lots Nos. 4477 and 6787, and French Consular lot No. 75. (2) A declaration that the plaintiff Koh Ching-ming is beneficially entitled to a three-fifths part of the area of B.C. lot No. 4405 and is further entitled to a three-tenths part of the aggregate areas of B.C. lots Nos. 4477 and 6787, and of French Consular lot No. 75.

Mr. H. P. Wilkinson and Mr. S. H. McKean appeared for plaintiffs, Mr. R. N. Macleod for Messrs. Davies & Brooke, and Mr. D. McNeill for Mr. Hayes.

Mr. Macleod made formal application for the usual order for pleadings.

Mr. McNeill suggested that the defences might be joined.

His Lordship—You might perhaps be allowed a certain amount of time after Mr. Macleod has prepared his defence. You may have the same defence, and you may not.

Mr. McNeill—I can supplement his defence.

His Lordship—My recollection of the case is that the matter before me was adjourned for a month.

Mr. McKean—An interim injunction was granted pending further proceedings.

His Lordship—It would save time if I continued the injunction now, until the hearing of this action, with leave to apply.

Mr. McNeill—That would be convenient to all parties.

His Lordship made an order for pleadings, giving Mr. Hayes 15 days to file his defence after the delivery of the defence of Messrs. Davies & Brooke; and granted continuance of the injunction against Messrs. Davies & Brooke, until the trial of the action or until further order, with liberty to apply.

OWING to the run made upon the head and branch offices of the Tokio Chozo Bank on the 6th instant, deposits amounting to some Y.8,000,000 were paid out up to midnight of that day. The run was resumed the following morning, and there was a large number of depositors at the head and branch offices of the bank, claiming payment, in spite of the snow which fell in Tokio. The authorities of the head office provided a dozen big tents for the accommodation of the depositors.

PAY BY CHECK

\$1 opens a Savings Account
\$100 opens a Checking Account

CURRENT ACCOUNTS

PAELS

MEXICAN DOLLARS

SAVINGS ACCOUNTS

PAELS

MEXICAN DOLLARS

STERLING

AMERICAN GOLD

FIXED DEPOSITS

PAELS

MEXICAN DOLLARS

STERLING

AMERICAN GOLD

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OVER 5,700 ACCOUNTS